

THE ALABAMA HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

PETER A. BRANNON, Editor



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JOHN CRENSHAW BURRUSS

Minister and Editor

By Martha Hardwick Swann

In the Fall of 1849, John Crenshaw Burruss, a young man from Caroline County, Virginia, arrived at the town of Notasulga, Alabama. He was twenty-eight years of age, and had been ordained as a Universalist Minister in Richmond, Virginia, in 1844. His father, George Burruss, a teacher and a farmer, had died several years prior to his moving to Alabama. He was a descendant of the Burruss, Turner and Noll families of Virginia and Maryland.

During the same year that Reverend Burruss settled in Notasulga, the name of the town was changed from Moore's Cross Roads. Amos Moore had been Postmaster in 1845. H. H. Armstrong was Postmaster in 1849. Other early Postmasters were W. A. Shaw, 1855, and J. J. Dickson, 1875.¹

Macon County was organized in 1832, and Tuskegee, the County seat, was laid out in 1833. Numbers of settlers moved into east Alabama from Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky. This was especially true after the removal of the Indians in 1836.²

During the 1840's and 1850's there was a rapid growth of population in Alabama. People were in the process of building small towns and cities. New fields were opened, agriculture was the chief industry, and cotton was king.

¹ Burruss Library, Notasulga, Alabama.

² Walter L. Fleming, *Civil War and Reconstruction in Alabama*, Macmillan, N. Y., 1905.

Early settlers told of an Inn located on a knoll near the present location of the Notasulga Methodist Church. Possibly Reverend Burruss stayed at this Inn until he could find a place to live.

He purchased a small monthly *Universalist Pamphlet*, edited by Reverend C. Shehane at Wetumpka, Alabama. He commenced publication in Notasulga, and adopted the name, *The Universalist Herald*. It was issued weekly, beginning January, 1850. In the spring of 1859, the office of *The Universalist Herald* was moved to Montgomery and the newspaper was published there until the outbreak of the War Between the States. The newspaper was revived in 1867 and again published at Notasulga until the Fall of 1896. In 1896 *The Universalist Herald* was consolidated with the *Georgia Universalist*, at Canon, Georgia.

Reverend Burruss was married on April 7, 1853, to Frances Ann Tinsley Burks³ who lived near Notasulga. Frances Burks Burruss was the daughter of Reverend Charles S. Burks, a Baptist Minister. Her mother was Elizabeth Armstrong Burks, daughter of James Armstrong, a Baptist Minister from Wilkes County, Georgia. The Burks family had moved to Notasulga from Wilkes County, Georgia. H. H. Armstrong, Postmaster, was an uncle of Frances Burks Burruss.

Children of John C. and Frances Burks Burruss were George Swinson, Fannie Burruss (Hardwich), Joe Beauregard Burruss (Cawthon), Louise Virginia Burruss (Warnock) and Fidley Theckler Quendara Burruss (Delbridge). Another daughter died in infancy. Hardwich and Delbridge families, presently residing in Notasulga, are descendants of John C. Burruss.⁴

³ This marriage record from Charles S. Burks family Bible now in possession of his great, grand daughter, Mary L. Akin.

⁴ Family Scrapbook—J. M. Hardwich, Notasulga, Alabama.

Reverend Burruss purchased a block of land extending north from the present corner of Lyon and Hardwich Streets to "Back Street", now known as the Tallassee Highway; west to the street which the old settlers called "Shirt Tail Bend" (near the present location of Rea Brothers' Gin). He bought a house near the middle of the block, facing Hardwich Street. The street now known as West Avenue was not in existence at that time.

Cedar trees were planted to form a circular drive to the house. On the east side of the house stood the printing office and library. The house still stands, but has not been in the family since Reverend Burruss' death. It is now known as the W. P. Moss home.

John Crenshaw Burruss was vitally interested in his religion. He built his own church on a little knoll surrounded by cedar trees, on his property, not far west of his home. He had studied for the ministry at Richmond, Virginia, and later the Degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon The Reverend Burruss by Buchtel College, Akron, Ohio. He preached in all of the southern states from Maryland to Texas. Several tours were made through Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois. He retained his home in Notasulga.⁵

"Journey of the Editor" was a column in *The Universalist Herald*. Interesting observations were made concerning roads, or lack of them, crops, the condition of the Editor's horse, Prince; geography of the particular area, farming, politics, stage, train and boat travel; Inns, schools, growth of population and the condition of the churches as well as the members thereof.

Doctor Burruss was interested in education. The following was published in *The Universalist Herald*, December 18, 1857:

"The subscriber will open an English School in the Universalist Church, in Notasulga, on the Third Monday in January,

⁵ *The Universalist Herald*—(1850-56). J. M. Hardwich.

1858. Terms of tuition per quarter of eleven weeks: Spelling, Reading and Writing—\$3.00. Arithmetic, English Grammar and Geography—\$4.00; Geometry, Trigonometry and Surveying—\$5.00. The school will close at the end of the third quarter. His daughter, P. F. Baber, will give, if desirable, lessons in Architectural and Prospective Drawing and Painting at three dollars for ten lessons. (Signed) Thomas Baber”.

Other notices concerning local schools were published in *The Universalist Herald*. The Notasulga Academy posted notice of its opening in 1856. James B. McMurray was Superintendent in 1859. There is mention of Rocky Creek Academy, four miles from Notasulga, in 1857. In Tuskegee, the Alabama Conference Female College was established with Dr. A. A. Lipscomb as president. Tuskegee also had a military school for boys, as well as the Tuskegee City Schools. The East Alabama Female College was established at Tuskegee, but soon closed. Notasulga District High School and Cross Keys High School were also in Macon County. John F. Yarborough advertised his English-Classical Teaching at Loachapoka, then Macon County, in 1856. Professor I. J. Morris advertised his system of English Grammar, at Auburn, Macon County, in 1858. The Masonic Female College was founded in Auburn, Professor Darby was Chemist and Professor Douglas was first president. The cornerstone for the East Alabama Male College was laid in 1857. Dr. Burruss wrote an account of the event, describing the speeches and the delicious dinner served to the public.

The following notice appeared in *The Universalist Herald* in 1856:

“Auburn Water Cure——the establishment located in the pleasant and healthy town of Auburn, Macon County, Alabama, being on the Montgomery and West Point Route Railroad, is convenient to access from both east and west. To invalids all the facilities of thorough treatment, together with personal attentions of the physicians. (Signed) Dr. W. M. C. Reed”.

Dr. Burruss sold books pertaining to his religion and also books concerning medicine, agriculture, education, history, labor, cooking, and other subjects. These books were on sale at his printing office. He read widely, as is evidenced by the number of books he had in his home library. He was the author of "Letters to Reverend Lovick Pierce, D.D., of the Georgia Methodist Episcopal Church", in 1853, "Discussion of Endless Punishment With Reverend William Hicks of the North Carolina Conferences" 1859 and "Discussion of Endless Punishment with Reverend J. R. Graves, Baptist, of Memphis, Tennessee", 1878-1879. Public debates were common during those years, and Dr. Burruss printed his debates in *The Universalist Herald*.

Dr. Burruss remained in active service for more than sixty years. He was a Democrat and a Mason, being Chaplain of the Notasulga Lodge for many years. He was tall of stature, fond of wearing a tall beaver hat and a frock tail coat; quick witted and humorous. His life spanned an interesting and exciting era. To him life was a challenge and he accepted it in high spirits. He died in Notasulga on Dec. 12, 1910, just a few months before his ninetieth birthday. His was a long and fruitful life.

EARLY MACON COUNTY RECORD*

We the undersigned managers & clerks do certify that an election held at the house of Joseph P. Clough for two Justices of the peace & constable that William Chapman and Michael DeBruhl were duly elected Justices of the peace & William Bulger constable for the 3rd company beat of Macon County Militia, this Oct 12th 1833

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Joseph P. Clough) | William Zimmerman) |
| Levi Chapman) Managers |) Clerks |
| Chesly D. Strange) | Blake Baggitt) |

Postmarked:

Montgy

Oct

15

Ala.

12½

His Excellency John Gayle
Tuscaloosa
Ala.

The State of Alabama)
Macon County)

An election was held at the house of Thomas Woodarads on the 4 day of March agreeable to the act passed at the last Session

Candates Names

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----|
| Sheriff for | Wildridge C. Thomson | 19 |
| | Robert G. Hadden Junr | 12 |
| Circuit Clk | Elexander M. Haden | 26 |
| County Clk | E. E. J. McBride | 22 |
| Collector and assessor | David Carter | 22 |

*Alabama Secretary of State's Record. Department Archives and History.

Commissioners of Roads and Revenue

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Amos Green | 21 |
| T. G. Crawford | 23 |
| Stephen Day | 19 |
| Thos. Woard | 23 |

We the managers of the above Election held at house of Thomas Woodards do Certify that the above is a true Coppy of the Returns

Robert G. Haden Senior
Danl. Scurlock
Robert Dodd J. P.

Edwd A McBryde

Enclose the Commissions to this office as there is no Post office in Macon County

Mount Meigs
Montgomery Co Al

12½

Mt Meigs
March 15

To
his Excellency

John Gayle
Tuskaloosa
Ala

EARLY MACON COUNTY RECORDS*

THE STATE OF ALABAMA)

MACON COUNTY)

Know all men by these presents that I Jacob Chester of the County & State aforesaid do for divers Good Cause & consideration bargain & lease to Willis Cox W H House & John McAllister School Commissioners for T 19 and R 24 all that tract or parcel of land lying South & East of the public Road known as the West Point & Tallassee Road¹ the said lands being situated & lying in Section Eight in Township 19 and Range twentyfour Said Commissioners & their successors in office to have & to hold the afore described premises for the term of ten years Said lands to be leased to be used for the location of a School House or Academy and School purposes only Given under my hand and private seal this 27th day of January 1842.

Jacob Chester (L.S.)

Test

Orrin D Cox J. P.

The State of Alabama)

Macon County)

Know all men by these presents that I W H House In Consideration of the above lease Given to the Commissioners for the time being & their successors in office full access & privilege to a spring situated & being on S9 T19 of R24 for the term of ten years this 27th Jay 1842

W H House (L.S.)

*Copy of a Document in possession of Mrs. Ethel Wilson Stevenson, Notasulga, Ala.

¹ This location is now the present road from Notasulga to Roxana, which in 1842 was in Macon County.

LIST OF VOTERS AT AN ELECTION HELD AT NOTASUL-
GA, MACON COUNTY, ALABAMA, ON THE 6th.
OF AUGUST 1849.

| | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | H. H. Armstrong | 6 | J. G. Brown |
| 2 | Elijah Harrolson | 7 | G. B. Rush |
| 3 | N. B. Taylor | 8 | Wm. R. Pender |
| 4 | A. J. Cotney | 9 | Able Heath |
| 5 | Eli Harrolson | 40 | W. B. Bayzer |
| 6 | G. Goode | 1 | Jas. H. Locke |
| 7 | J. Webster | 2 | J. L. Hannan |
| 8 | Robert Roberts | 3 | Edmd. Lyon |
| 9 | Chris C. Brawner (?) | 4 | J. W. Dogget |
| 10 | M. M. Bentley | 5 | Wm. G. Post |
| 1 | M. R. Clopton | 6 | Ben. S. Anderson |
| 2 | Jesse Locke | 7 | Ben. Rollerson |
| 3 | J. M. Arant | 8 | W. W. Jolly |
| 4 | A. H. Rowel | 9 | Gains Brown |
| 5 | Willis Cox | 50 | J. Y. Moore |
| 6 | Geo. J. Wells | 1 | Thos. Wright |
| 7 | Jesse Zachry | 2 | Reuben Phillips |
| 8 | Wright Pender | 3 | H. F. Calloway |
| 9 | G. N. Perdue | 4 | R. E. Rowel |
| 20 | John Cratzburg | 55 | Geo. McGarrah |
| 1 | Griff Mathew | 6 | Geo. Gilmon |
| 2 | Jas. Harper | 7 | A. J. Harper |
| 3 | M. H. McCay | 8 | John Butler |
| 4 | E. D. Croft | 9 | John M. Culler |
| 5 | D. W. Arthur | 60 | Wm. Gibson |
| 6 | Wm. W. Rea | 1 | John Kelley |
| 7 | Albert Morehan | 2 | Jas. F. Anthony |
| 8 | Wm. Teat | 3 | Romalus Zachry |
| 9 | Saml. P. Pool | 4 | Britain Blount |
| 30 | Abn. J. Weatherly | 5 | D. B. Cobb |
| 1 | S. D. Simmons | 6 | W. A. Bentley |
| 2 | Butler Williams | 7 | Jas. McDanil |
| 3 | Wm. Iverson | 8 | Chas. Webb |
| 4 | Sim Brawner | 9 | Wm. Pope |
| 5 | Peter Driskell | 70 | Danl. Mathews |

LIST OF VOTERS AT AN ELECTION HELD AT NOTASUL-
GA, MACON COUNTY, ALABAMA, ON THE 6th.
OF AUGUST 1849—(Continued)

| | | | |
|-----|---------------------|-----|------------------|
| 1 | Saml. Whitman | 6 | Allen Dubley |
| 2 | Seth Cotney | 7 | J. N. Reeves |
| 3 | N. L. Simpson | 8 | K. H. Scroggins |
| 4 | E. M. Smith | 9 | Jas. W. Byrd |
| 5 | Wm. W. Pugh | 110 | Alfred Marler |
| 6 | J. D. Kelley | 1 | Spencer Riley |
| 7 | Chas. Fralick | 2 | Robt. Crittenden |
| 8 | Jas. S. Fears | 113 | Jethro Walker |
| 9 | Abner Horn | 4 | John S. Holland |
| 80 | Toliaferro Weeks | 5 | Christ Kennon |
| 1 | Wm. Goodson | 6 | A. G. Morrison |
| 2 | J. A. McKay | 7 | L. B. Phillips |
| 3 | Baker Spinks | 8 | W. W. Donnel |
| 4 | Wm. Wright | 9 | Robt. Smith |
| 5 | Spencer G. Adkins | 120 | Shad Humphries |
| 6 | David Henderson | 1 | John Smith |
| 7 | Church Gibson | 2 | F. H. Ward |
| 8 | P. A. Cates | 3 | Wm. Smith |
| 9 | Jacob Flournoy | 4 | Wm. York |
| 90 | O. A. Dukes | 5 | J. N. Perdue |
| 1 | H. T. Bartee | 6 | J. E. Parish |
| 2 | D. G. Reeves | 7 | Wm. A. Shaw |
| 3 | J. A. Calloway | 8 | Augustus Donel |
| 4 | J. B. McDanil | 9 | T. R. Scroggins |
| 5 | Danl. Patterson | 130 | C. D. Shell |
| 6 | L. B. Blanks | 1 | Wm. E. Addison |
| 7 | Wm. Cole | 2 | S. H. Toney |
| 8 | E. J. Pegues | 3 | Riley Tidwell |
| 9 | A. P. Roberts | 4 | A. Watford |
| 100 | J. Willet | 5 | H. H. Scroggins |
| 1 | Mark Killingsworth | 6 | Pen Darnell |
| 2 | Jas. Hadley | 7 | Hiram Traywik |
| 3 | J. W. Ashcraft | 8 | Jas. Ball |
| 4 | J. R. McDonald | 9 | M. R. Perkins |
| 5 | Blackstone Merchant | 140 | Buford Davis |

LIST OF VOTERS AT AN ELECTION HELD AT NOTASUL-
GA, MACON COUNTY, ALABAMA, ON THE 6th.
OF AUGUST 1849—(Continued)

| | | | |
|-----|-------------------|-----|------------------|
| 1 | Jas. Dickson | 3 | Joseph Hughy |
| 2 | O. C. Scroggins | 4 | J. W. Lawler |
| 3 | J. W. Robertson | 5 | Green Griggs |
| 4 | John B. Post | 6 | Wm. Turner |
| 5 | D. B. Simpson | 7 | M. Nelson |
| 6 | Saml. Reid | 8 | N. D. Geary |
| 7 | A. G. Simpson | 9 | S. N. Dearbley |
| 8 | J. R. Salder | 170 | G. D. Dearbley |
| 9 | Resin Arnold | 1 | C. Wilson |
| 150 | Edwd. Conner | 2 | N. B. Clopton |
| 1 | Geo. W. Delbridge | 3 | W. E. Wynne |
| 2 | W. C. Burkes | 4 | G. T. Campbell |
| 3 | A. Clopton | 5 | C. F. R. Shehane |
| 4 | D. W. Willerford | 6 | Wd. Riddle |
| 5 | Geo. W. Gray | 7 | W. E. Wynne |
| 6 | W. C. Best | 8 | Thomas Baber |
| 7 | Jesse Boland | 9 | Davis |
| 8 | A. G. Adkins | 180 | Wm. A. Cox |
| 9 | B. S. Osborn | 180 | Eli York |
| 160 | Thos. Best | 1 | B. W. Starks |
| 1 | G. W. Arberry | 2 | Jo. W. Bradford |
| 2 | G. Mathews | 3 | Singleton York. |

General Election Returns From Notasulga.

GOVERNOR

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Rice | 2 |
| Collier | 69 |

SENATOR

| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Gunn | 121 |
| Ligon | 120 |

REPRESENTATIVES

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Walker | 127 |
| Lewis | 106 |

TAX COLLECTOR

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Robertson | 90 |
| Dukes | 83 |

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Resolution 1 (Ayes) | 42 |
| Nays | 100 |
| Circuit Judge | 125 |
| Nays | 39 |
| County Judge | 131 |
| Nays | 34 |

THE STATE OF ALABAMA)
MACON COUNTY)

We the undersigned managers,
of an Election held at Notasulga on the 6th of August 1849, for
Governor, Senator, Representatives and Tax Collectors, do here-
by certify that the enclosed statement is correct.

August 6, 1849

W. A. Cox
Thomas Baber
Joseph Bradford
O. S. Osbern.
Clerks.

Nath. V. Clopton
W. E. Winn
B. W. Stark
Managers.

(Secretary of State's files in Department of Archives and
History).

State of Alabama)
 Macon County)

To Secretary of State Greeting

We the Undersigned, Councilmen of the Town of Auburn. State & County afore said, having acted as Managers of an Election. Ratifying the Incorporation of the "Masonic Female College" with the Restriction of the Sale of all intoxicating liquors within two miles of said College do hereby certify that the following is a correct return of all the Votes Poled on the first Monday of the present Month.

A. Williams. Intendant
 Addison Frazer
 W. H. Howe.

March 6th 1852

| No. | Names |
|-----|------------------|
| 1. | A. W. Todd |
| 2. | John Ousley |
| 3. | M. A. Bond |
| 4. | Simeon Perry |
| 5. | Col. N. J. Scott |
| 6. | Adam Hardin |
| 7. | Frank M. Reese |
| 8. | Isaac Hill |
| 9. | J. B. Glen |
| 10. | W. H. Howe |
| 11. | Albert Williams |
| 12. | W. T. Davis |
| 13. | J. W. W. Drake |
| 14. | Addison Frazer |
| 15. | John G. W. Whale |
| 16. | Jno. W. Jones |
| 17. | Bryant Campbell |
| 18. | A. Holifield |
| 19. | R. P. Wynn |
| 20. | J. B. Williams |
| 21. | Daniel Clower |

| No. | Names |
|-------|---------------------|
| 22. | M. B. McKimmins |
| 23. | Patrick Henry Drake |
| 24. | John Eady |
| 25. | George A. Clower |
| 26. | Cornelius Brazil |
| 27. | James C. White |
| 28. | Ruben C. Holifield |
| 29. | James A. Harvy |
| 30. | Thomas Eady |
| (31.) | George W. Glover |
| | Blank Ticket |
| 32. | Thomas Keaton |
| 33. | Col. F. W. Dillard |
| 34. | M. W. Kidd |
| 35. | Thomas Slaton |
| 36. | Benj. F. Johnston |
| 37. | John Swanson |
| 38. | Elija Thornton |
| 39. | Albert Thornton |
| 40. | James W. Echols |
| 41. | George W. Shelton |

| No. | Names | No. | Names |
|-----|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 42. | John H. Drake | 74. | F. C. Underwood |
| 43. | A. J. Holifield | 75. | F. R. Lucas |
| 44. | Robert Boring | 76. | Jno. W. Eady |
| 45. | Wesley Williams | 77. | Mathews Turner |
| 46. | I. N. Harvey | 78. | Wiley Harris |
| 47. | George S. Cobb | 79. | M. Walker |
| 48. | David Harris | 80. | G. W. Foster |
| 49. | W. F. Castellow | 81. | John Edmondson |
| 50. | D. M. Smith | 82. | B. F. Warner |
| 51. | Thomas Clower | 83. | W. B. Brasfield |
| 52. | W. W. Evens | 84. | Henry Miles |
| 53. | David A. Rutledge | 85. | Alex Dewar |
| 54. | W. B. Jones | 86. | E. T. Glen |
| 55. | W. H. Philpot | 87. | H. N. Langford |
| 56. | D. R. Haley | 88. | T. D. Langford |
| 57. | James W. Kidd | 89. | J. P. Gallaspie |
| 58. | I. K. Lamb | 90. | J. R. Thompson |
| 59. | Abram Lawrence | 91. | James McCormic |
| 60. | Lionel G. Turner | 92. | Spencer Grayson |
| 61. | Benj. Herring | 93. | Edwin Perryman |
| 62. | Sanford Thornton | 94. | H. L. McGregor |
| 63. | William Foster | 95. | Thomas Wingate |
| 64. | Dozier Thornton | 96. | D. S. T. Duglas |
| 65. | N. A. Thornton | 97. | W. Harper |
| 66. | A. H. Alston | 98. | Thos. Mc Dermont |
| 67. | P. C. Sadler | 99. | Wm. Massengale |
| 68. | C. G. Gallispie | 100. | Wm. Flanagan |
| 69. | M. M. Fagan | 101. | Lewis Foster |
| 70. | Jefferson Lucas | Votes Poled for Restriction..85 | |
| 71. | A. J. Stephens | Votes Poled for No Restriction | |
| 72. | F. R. Tobert | 15 | |
| 73. | Thomas Coplin | Blank Tickets1 | |

(Copied from files of the Secretary of State, Department of Archives and History.)

Vote of Auburn on Selling liquor

File 10 March 1852.

Secretary of State

Montgomery

Montgomery

ONE CT

Ala.

Ala.

(postage)

Mar. 11

(Superscription on Letter of Transmittal)

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In Department of Archives and History

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UNIVERSALIST HERALD

Notasulga, Alabama
 Editor: John C. Burress
 Established: 1846

This paper moved to Montgomery, Alabama, April 29, 1859, to enlarge its business, suspended business during the War, and reestablished in Notasulga, Alabama, March 1, 1867, as a semi-monthly paper.

May 9, 1857 - Dec. 23, 1859

Book 2280

Missing: July 10, 1857; Jan. 1, 8, 1858; May 6, 1859; Dec. 16,

1959. Many are mutilated.

(Name was changed to *Universalist Herald & Southn Progressionist* was changed back to *Universalist Herald*)

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| July 27, 1860 - March 1, 1861 | Book 2280 |
| Missing: Sept. 7, 21; Oct. 26; Nov. 23; Dec. 7, 21, 28, 1860, Feb. 15, 1861 | |
| March 1, 1867 - Feb. 15, 1868 | Book 2281 |
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| Missing: Jan. 1, 1877; Nov. 1, 15, 1877; Nov. 1, 1878; Dec. 1, 1878 | |
| Jan. 1, 1879 - Dec. 15, 1888 (Incomplete) | Book 2282 |
| Jan. 1, 1889 - Oct. 1, 1896 (Incomplete) | Book 2283 |
| Dec. 24, 1858) | |
| Mar. 15, 1878) | Unbound Newspapers |
| April 1, 1879) | |

MACON COUNTY DEMOCRAT

Tuskegee, Alabama

Editor: S. I. Hill

July 29, 1892 (One issue only) Unbound Newspapers

MACON MAIL (Weekly)

Tuskegee, Alabama.

Established: March 1876

Editors: King and Thornton

Feb. 9, 1881 - June 18, 1884 (Incomplete) Book 2284

THE MACON REPUBLICAN (Weekly)

Tuskegee, Alabama.

Editor: Daniel Sayre

Established 1843

Nov. 8, 1849 - Dec. 30, 1852 Book 2307

The following are mutilated or clipped:

Dec. 13, 1849; Feb. 14, 1850; Dec. 19, 1850; May 9, 1851; May
15, 1851; May 22, 1851; Dec. 30, 1852

Missing: Dec. 26, 1850; Jan. 2, 1851; Dec. 16, 23, 1852

Jan. 6, 1853 - Oct. 9, 1856 Book 2308

Missing: Oct. 26; Nov. 2, 1854

Dec. 4, 1856 - Dec. 8, 1859 Book 2309
 (Dec. 2, 9, 1858, Clipped.)

Sometime after Oct. 9, 1856, the paper was re-established as

TUSKEGEE REPUBLICAN (Weekly)

Tuskegee, Alabama.

Editor: Daniel Sayre

Dec. 4, 1856 - Dec. 8, 1859 (Same as above) Book 2309

THE NEGRO FARMER

Tuskegee, Alabama

Sept. 1940 - Dec. 1943

Jan. 1944 - Dec. 1947

(May 1947 is missing)

Jan. 1948.....November 1949 (monthly) (Unbound newspapers)

(No longer receiving)

THE NEGRO FARMER AND MESSENGER (Monthly)

Estab. 1914, as a semi-monthly

changed to monthly Oct. 6, 1917

April 11, 1914 - Mar. 1918 (Incomplete) Book 2285

THE NEWS (Weekly)

Tuskegee, Alabama

Editor: J. E. Cobb.

March 27, 1873 - May 22, 1873 Book 2291

Name changed to:

TUSKEGEE WEEKLY NEWS

Editor: J. E. Cobb.

May 29, 1873 - June 24, 1875 Book 2291

(Bound with *THE NEWS*)

July 1, 1875 - April 24, 1879 Book 2293

May 1, 1879 - April 13, 1882 Book 2293

(Some numbers are missing and some are mutilated)

Name changed to:

TUSKEGEE NEWS

(One copy, September 27, 1866 (Unbound Newspapers)

March 26, 1891, bound with

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| August 17, 1899-April 24, 1902 | Book 2294 |
| May 1, 1902 - December 20, 1906 | Book 2295 |
| Jan. 3, 1907 - December 30, 1909 | Book 2296 |
| January 6, 1910 - December 19, 1912 | Book 2297 |
| January 2, 1913 - August 6, 1914 | Book 2298 |
| January 7, 1915 - July 26, 1917 | Book 2299 |
| August 2, 1917 - December 23, 1919 | Book 2300 |
| January 1, 1920 - May 5, 1921 | Book 2301 |
| May 12, 1921 - December 27, 1923 | Book 2302 |
| January 24, 1924 - December 3, 1925 | Book 2303 |
| November 14, 1929 - December 24, 1931 | Book 2304 |

THE TUSKEGEE WEEKLY NEWS

MACON COUNTY

Jan. 4, 1877, P. 2, Col. 1.

Brief history of the paper.

In April 1865, immediately upon return of A. F. Henderson from Army, he began the publication of *The News*, with the old material formerly used on *South-Western Baptist* first Wm. P. Chilton, and able lawyer and writer of reputation, afterwards the venerable and lamented H. E. Taliaferro as Editor, continuing under the later management until the year of 1868, when the present proprietor (D. W. McIver) purchased $\frac{1}{2}$ interest and ran the News for over a year. Taliaferro was still the editor.

In 1870, Henderson returned, purchased the entire establishment and assumed control. Between 1870 and fall of 1873, the concern passed through numerous hands. Capt. F. S. Ferguson, P. S. Holt, J. A. Bilbro, Jas. E. Cobb, figured in its business and editorial management. In the Fall of 1873, the writer purchased $\frac{1}{2}$ interest in the News and under firm name of Cobb and McIver, business was carried on for 15 months when Judge Cobb retired and "we assumed sole ownership and control."

| | |
|--|-----------|
| January 7, 1932 - December 27, 1934 | Book 2305 |
| January 3, 1935 - December 31, 1936 | Book 2306 |
| January 7, 1937 - December 29, 1938 (Incomplete) | |
| January 5, 1939 - December 26, 1940 | |
| January 2, 1941 - December 31, 1942 | |
| January 7, 1943 - December 28, 1944 | |
| January 4, 1945 - December 26, 1946 | |
| January 2, 1947 - December 25, 1947 | |
| January 1, 1948 - December 29, 1949 | |
| January 1950 - December 30, 1950 | |
| January 4, 1951 - December 30, 1952 | |
| January 1 1953, - December 31, 1954 | |
| January 6, 1955 - December 29, 1955 | |

SOUTH WESTERN BAPTIST
(Weekly)

Tuskegee, Alabama

Established 1848, at Marion, Alabama.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| March 5, 1851 - November 10, 1852 | Book 2286 |
| December 17, 1852 - December 24, 1853 (Missing: June 24, 1853) | Book 2287 |
| January 12, 1854 - May 1, 1856 | Book 2287 |
| May 8, 1856 - April 28, 1859 | Book 2288 |
| May 5, 1859 - May 15, 1862 | Book 2289 |
| May 22, 1862 - April 13, 1863 | Book 2290 |

THE TUSKEGEE HERALD (NEGRO)

Tuskegee, Alabama

November 4, 1952
(First issue received)
November 18, 1952 - December 29, 1953
January 5, 1954 - December 28, 1954.

MUSTER ROLL

Of the Macon Guards Organized at Tuskegee, Ala., May 23,
1846, for the War With Mexico.

Robert F. Ligon, Captain.
Egbert B. Johnson, 1st Lieutenant.
Spencer Currell, 2nd Lieutenant.
William L. Allen, 1st Sergeant.
William H. Wood, 2nd Sergeant.
Chas. F. Gleaton, 3rd Sergeant.
Wm. Truman, 4th Sergeant.
Batte P. Clarke, 1st Corporal.
James M. Nicholson, 2nd Corporal.
William Read, 3d Corporal.
Dello Antonio, Musician.

Privates.

Wm. H. Anderson, Robet. Armon, Jas. R. Brazell, James F. Brown, Henry F. Baxter, Danl. Brown, S. Bailey, Alex N. Bell, John T. Baine, Aron Black, S. L. Copeland, James Carmichael, J. S. Carmichael, O. C. Davis, D. A. Dennis, Blakely Edens, A. Fanor, Alfred Ferrell, John Gable, D. L. Gage, William Gibbons, John P. Guinn, Thos. Greene, H. Grace, S. Howard, Jas. T. Howard, E. R. Hurst, N. B. Hill, Wm. L. Jones, Right Jenkins, Ed. Kerksey, D. G. Lake, W. Mallard, L. McCullough, B. B. Masters, William Moore, P. M. Newman, J. Newberry, Jno. P. Nall, H. Phillips, S. D. Quinby, S. P. Reaves, Jno. C. Ratton, Hiram Richs, J. G. Robinson, Presley Scarlock, J. G. Smith, D. D. Tharpe, James Tarpley, J. M. Talley, M. Walker, John Wright, Greene Wadkins, Richard Wilder, Wm. Williams, Howell R. Zuber.

From *The Weekly Advertiser*, Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 29,
1893.

EARLY HISTORY OF TUSKEGEE*

Messrs. Darby and Price, of Tuskegee, the proprietors of Darby's Prophylactic Fluid, have published a small pamphlet, or business circular for that flourishing little town, in which are some interesting reminiscences of its early days, a few of which we select:

The Legislative Act for organizing the County of Macon passed during the session of 1832-33. The town of Tuskegee was selected for the county site, and laid off into lots and streets about September, 1834, by Laird W. Harris, first surveyor. The name was transferred from an old Indian town to the newly organized village.

Major J. Dent built the first house that was erected within the original plan of Tuskegee. It stood on the corner now occupied by Brewer's Hotel, and in accordance with the prevalent architectural style of that primitive period, was a double log house. The first framed dwelling house in the town was built by the late Peter C. Harris, on the spot now covered by Judge Tate's finely improved residence. The first store of which the town could boast was kept by a Mr. Bryan, about the spot where Dr. Thomas's Drug Store now stands. It was a log house.

Mr. William Hudson kept the first post office in Tuskegee in the older part of the Hotel now tenanted by Mr. W. B. Starke, a structure which was erected in 1834, by James B. Robinson.

The house now known as the Yellow Corner was the first framed store in the town, and occupied at that early date by Mr. James P. Cobb.

The first temple in which ardent litigants worshipped at the shrine of Themes, was a log building on the site of the present brick law office Messrs. Menefee and Gatchet. It had a dirt floor,

*Newspaper clipping.

covered with pine straw, and there his honor, Judge Clough, long dispensed the even awards of justice. In 1837, the rude structure made way for a brick edifice erected upon the public square. This in turn was replaced in 1853, by our present Court House, at a cost of about \$14,000.

The first teacher in the new village was our esteemed fellow-citizen, Mr. John Howard, Postmaster, who taught the young idea how to shoot in a building near the present site of the Methodist Church.

Among the first circuit preachers in this community were the Reverend Charles Strider, and Reverend John Laney, both members of the Alabama Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

The first jail was built in 1835, on the site of the present residence of Mr. H. S. Haynes. It was a two story house, strongly built of double layers of hewn logs, and in 1836, a rude picket was thrown around it to afford protection against the depredations of Indians. The new brick jail dates from 1842.

The first marriage in the County was that of J. H. Thornton to Miss Hudnall, which was celebrated near Jackson's Bridge.

Mobile Daily *Register*, Sunday morning, June 26, 1859, p. 3, Col. 2.

TUSKEGEE IN OLDEN TIMES

Frequent references to the early days of our Town, awaken memories, the expression whereof may excite a passing interest. We regret that there is not some reliable and consecutive account of their history, and that it is so meagre and fragmentary, but we hope some one competent to the task will undertake to put the facts in proper order. A full generation and more has passed since our first charter, and the men and women, (are they not entitled to the same or more honorable mention) of that day, have passed, or are fast passing away, Like leaves before the Autumn wind.

Some have sought more congenial climes, others still remain, many and most have found, if not gold, what all find in every clime, graves, even the children of those early days "lang syne," look out from life western windows, whose suns, ere long will set to rise in the "happy land," where troubles all shall cease. We have no occasion to blush at the retrospect which our history will present. We have had men and women of genuine worth and sterling merit, and have furnished in every walk of life, men and women, too, of the very first character, who have made for themselves reputations, of which we should feel greatly proud.

Tuskegee was represented, and that right well, in the Confederate army, from Generals and Colonels, up to the true heroes, who without office or reward, or hope thereof, faithfully fought the bitter struggle through, or gloriously died in defense of what they conceived to be their rights and their honor. Who does not honor the "rank and file?" Lives there a soul so dead?

Were there ever better or truer men in any land than Bascomb, Lanier, Stafford, Jones, Edmonds, Adams, Chilton, Howard, Smith, Price, and others, among our first settlers, and is there a prouder name in all the realms of poetry than Caroline Lee Hentz? who for years made Tuskegee her home, and yet to the young and ambitious we say our apotheosis is yet to be written.

But when do our early days begin? Our county was made out of the Creek Indian Territory, in 1832-33. The Indians were carried west in the Spring of 1836, and they all passed away from these forests, where they roved,

“That noble race and brave,”

Yet, they have left their names on our waters, and their memory liveth in our hills, and our town speaks their dialect of yore. William Walker, who was an Indian trader, and acquired a fortune in this Territory, and who died about the year 1836, (leaving our old friend, of blessed memory, Edward Hanrick, his Executor, and he too was one of Tuskegee's best friends) gave 80 acres of the south half of the southwest qr. of section 30, township 17, range 24, for the county seat, and it was laid off in lots of two acres, with the streets at right angles with the cardinal points of the compas, so as to run on the ridge on which the town was to be built, without allowing any magnetic variation. The County Surveyor who did the work, a copy of which may be found in the Probate Office, Book C Page 74, was Laird W. Harris, who discharged the duties of the office for many years, moved to Pike county and died about 1850.

On the 16th of January, 1834, the Legislature passed an act authorizing the Commissioners of the county, Thomas S. Woodward, Robert Adams, John C. Gleaton and Samuel Johnson to sell the lots for the town which they proceeded to do, after giving it the name it now bears.

On the 22d of December, 1836, the Legislature passed an act to incorporate the town of Tuskegee, and its first provision is that all that tract of land, the south half of the Sw. Qr. of Sec. 30, Township 17, Range 24, shall be called and known as the town of Tuskegee, and then it provides for a Council to be elected on the first Saturday in February, 1837, by James Dent, Thomas S. Woodward, Sampson Lanier, John Clark and John Hudnell, as Judges of election, who did hold an election, as provided, and John Drakeford, William P. Meriweather, Wm. H. Stafford,

Sampson Lanier and W. F. Hodnett were elected Councillors, the first named being elected by these, Intendant. A. D. Edwards was elected, or appointed, Marshal, but soon after resigning, Thomas Gwin was appointed, and served for sometime, until, no election having been held for several years, the charter was forfeited, but was again renewed by act of the Legislature, on the 13th of February, 1843, still remaining as at first, 80 acres. The act provided for an election of officers on the first Monday in May, 1843, under the supervision of P. P. Carlos, T. C. Puryear and W. F. Hodnett. The election was held, and we have had ever since, a regular government, and now are a city, full grown.

The population of Tuskegee, at the period first mentioned, must have been about five hundred, but in 1843 must have been twice that. The great increase of future years, after the area was enlarged to two and a half miles square, was after 1850, when the two magnificent female colleges and the high school for boys, were in full headway, with a large patronage, to increase under the splendid management, (of the only one remaining) of Professor Massey, to something like "lang syne." We commenced to write, simply to speak of the old settlers, whose names ought to be preserved, if no more, but we will mention those that occur to us, with the hope that some friend will write out a more extended notice of each; we fear too, that it may not interest all, but it is a theme of which we never tire.

To think and speak of the friends of earlier days; and would that we had the pen of an Irving, to do justice to many a soul, cherished in our heart of hearts, for who but he could do full justice to the memory of Dr. Robert H. Howard, Major James H. Smith or the Hon. William P. Chilton.

AN EDITORIAL

TUSKEGEE WEEKLY NEWS

Thursday, April 12, 1877

MACON "VARIETY WORKS"

We copy from the *Auburn Gazette* the following description of Maj. Howard's "Variety Works", in Macon county, of which we have previously spoken.—All such enterprises for the development of the home resources of the State, deserve high commendation:

Permit me, through your valuable paper, to bring to notice of your readers and the public generally, the beautiful and extensive variety works of Maj. William J. Howard, situated in the western part of the county, on the road leading from Tuskegee to Montgomery, near Line Creek, Maj. Howard deserves much credit for the enterprise and industry manifested in getting up such an establishment, where the wants of the whole community can be supplied in almost every description of household furniture.

I visited Maj. H.'s place about a year ago, at which time the fine factory building which now graces the elevated and beautiful eminence on which he lives, was lying in detached pieces. It is impossible for one to form an adequate idea of the utility and importance of this establishment, without visiting it; and it may require a few years to convince the public of the great necessity of sustaining and fostering all such establishments in this country. In this establishment our citizens may supply themselves with not only the beautiful cottage chair, made in a most superior style, and at a less price than at any other factory, but he puts up every style of chair in the most substantial and neat manner. Indeed, so numerous are the articles which he manufactures, that it would be taxing your columns too much to speak of them all; but I hope you will indulge me while I allude to a few of the finer description in the way of fine Bureaus, Pier Tables, Secretaries, etc, etc, etc, together with many other articles of furniture, made from the beautiful magnolia—the native growth of our Sunny South. I am proud to see such establishments spring up in our midst, it speaks well for the intelligence of our people. Who that has paid the slightest attention to the increased produc-

tion of the staple of our country, has not seen and felt the importance of a greater diversity of labor. Let us turn our attention to improving every thing about and around us; let us build plank roads; let us make all our public highways, ways of pleasantness.

In conclusion, Messrs. Editors, allow me to bespeak for Maj. Howard the support and patronage of the county of Macon and the State generally.

MACON.

Auburn, March 26, 1852.

THE ALABAMA JOURNAL
Saturday, April 17, 1852.
P. 2, Col. 2.

TOWNSHIP SCHOOL LIST

T. 18, R. 24.

State of Alabama)

Macon County)

We the undersigned Commissioners for Township Eighteen, Range Twenty Four in said county do hereby certify that the following is a list of Scholars sent to school in said Township and Range for the year 1842, and the actual time each Scholar was sent at \$1 per month.

| | Days | | |
|------------------|------|----------------|------|
| | | Susan Dukes | 163 |
| Rutha Jackson | 29 | Matilda Dukes | 181 |
| Julia Jackson | 41 | Jasper Talton | 59 |
| Joel Jackson | 109 | Curtis Simmons | 163 |
| Simeon Jackson | 145½ | John Simmons | 199 |
| William Jackson | 140½ | Mary Simmons | 124 |
| Ann Weatherly | 148½ | John Boles | 73 |
| Luther Weatherly | 91½ | Phoebe Bowles | 107 |
| Floyd Weatherly | 133 | Elijah Boles | 67 |
| Morgan Weatherly | 146 | Levi Boles | 66 |
| Sarah Mason | 66 | Wm. Boles | 56 |
| Charles Mason | 9½ | Wm. Tete | 56 |
| Marlin Mason | 168 | James Moon | 218 |
| Frances Mason | 7½ | Alexander Moon | 82 |
| Mary Mason | 16 | Willis Johnson | 114 |
| Candice Bryant | 127 | Thomas Shaw | 129½ |
| Amelia Bryant | 5 | Ellen Shaw | 125 |
| Frances Bryant | 45 | Francis Jolly | 48 |
| William Bryant | 30 | Mary Ann Jolly | 74 |
| Lucy Crow | 158 | James Dukes | 28 |
| Watson Jolley | 82 | John Hearn | 12 |
| Regen Arnold | 84½ | Lycurgus Hearn | 90 |
| Anderson Arnold | 103 | Mary Miles | 160 |
| Sarah Arnold | 54 | Martha Miles | 200 |
| Caroline Arnold | 26 | James Miles | 170 |
| Lomia Dukes | 179½ | Stuart Lee | 132 |
| Martha Dukes | 175½ | | |

And we do further certify that the annual value of the Sixteenth Section in said Township and Range for the same year was Nineteen 83/100 Dollars arising from interest at 6 per cent—And that applications has not been made to any other Bank nor Branch Bank in this State for the amount to which this Township is entitled to by the provision made by law to aid the valuelss 16th. Sections, and we do further certify that an amount equal to one-third of the amount applied for has been subscribed in good faith by the citizens of said Township.

Given under our hands

Jan. 5, 1843

William A. Shaw)

Andrew Jackson)

Commissioners

T. 18-24.

\$260.95 The Cashier of the Branch of the Bank of the State of Alabama at Montgomery will pay to the order of the Commissioners—to William A. Shaw Two hundred and Sixty dollars and 95 cents, the amount due for tuition in Township Eighteen and Range Twenty Four for the year 1842.

Jan. 5, 1843

William A. Shaw)

Andrew Jackson)

Commissioners

T. 18-24.

SUPERSCRPTION

Branch Bank Montgomery

January 6, 1843.

This application was this day presented at this bank for payment and was not paid for want of funds for that purpose.

Jno. Whiting, Cashier

THE AUBURN MALE COLLEGE
LAYING THE CORNER STONE * * ITS ORGANIZATION

Auburn, Ala., August 18, 1857

Mr. Sayre: No doubt both your readers and yourself would be glad to peruse some account of the great gala day, that came off here last Wednesday, on the occasion of laying the Corner Stone of the "East Alabama Male College." Should you not fortunately secure a better pen than mine, I trust the following brief notes may reach you in time for publication this week.

Your readers know that this Institution has been talked of for more than three years past. They are aware, also, of the difficulties under which the enterprise has labored from its first inception. Now, however, it has risen from the region of uncertainty into the position of an ascertained popular fact. The interest evinced in the ceremonies of last Wednesday; the immense concourse of citizens and visitors from all quarters; the enthusiasm of the masses; the hearty co-operation of men of wealth and influence; and the sympathetic appreciation of high functionaries in the Church and State, all demonstrate the deep hold which the movement has upon the popular heart. The people will assuredly sustain the institution.

Wednesday was a fair day, after weeks of rain. At an early hour crowds of persons from the adjacent country poured into the town. The arrivals of the cars brought accessions to the multitude. At eleven o'clock an immense procession moved to the College grounds headed by about five hundred Masons and Odd Fellows. The notes of music; the chiming of bells; the roll of carriages and vehicles of all descriptions; the array of female beauty and loveliness; the measured tread of the long procession; the gay dresses of the various orders, all presented an inspiring scene.³

Upon reaching the College grounds the ceremony of laying the Corner Stone was performed with Masonic formalities.⁴ A

great variety of articles were deposited therein, including the Bible, Hymn Book and discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; leading church and some secular papers, coins, regalia, and so forth.

About one o'clock Bishop Pierce⁵ addressed the vast audience, in that fascinating style of popular oratory of which he is the fortunate possessor. His speech was one of marked ability, abounding in just, striking and patriotic sentiments. He was followed by Dr. Summers.⁶ Those alone, who have heard this prince of platform speakers can form any adequate conception of the vastness of the learning, and the depth and extent of the condition, which he composed into one short address, and that vivified by such an outbreking mirthfulness as to enchain a miscellaneous audience, under circumstances peculiarly disadvantageous.

After the speeches, dinner was announced. It was a grand affair. Twelve hundred feet of tables, I was told, were spread with all that the palate could desire. The profusion of eatables, I never saw equalled. About four or five thousand persons were fed and filled, and the fragments and reserves of food would have fed half as many more. The citizens of Auburn and the surrounding country certainly deserve extraordinary praise for the profuse abundance, the excellent quality, and the nice preparation of this great public dinner.

I may mention that Mr. Hilliard⁷ delivered a fine address, at night, in the College Chapel, followed by a begging speech from Dr. Summers which realized several thousand dollars.

The Trustees of the new College elected the following faculty:⁸

1. President—Rev. William A. Smith, DD. of Virginia.
2. Professor Mathematics—Professor R. A. Holcombe, A. M., of Centenary College, Jackson, Louisiana.

3. Professor Languages—Professor O. F. Casey, M. A., of Wesleyan University, North Alabama.
4. Natural History—Professor John Darby, M. A., of Auburn, Alabama.
5. English Literature—William H. Chambers, M. A., of Eufaula, Alabama.

Dr. Smith is the distinguished advocate of slavery, a man of quaint intellect, a powerful thinker, an impressive writer, an orator of unsurpassed force and power. His reputation is coextensive with the Union. His acceptance of the Presidency would insure the success of the enterprise.

Of the other members of the Faculty it is sufficient to observe, that they are widely and favorably known in the sections in which they have lived and labored. They are all believed to be men of the first order of talent in their several fields of research and instruction.

The following plan presents the grand outlines of the system of instruction, adopted by the Trustees. You will see that it is elevated, comprehensive and liberal.

There shall be four grand divisions of study, viz:

1. Philosophy and Ethics, including Intellectual and moral Philosophy, Political economy and evidences of Christianity.
2. Mathematics, embracing Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Analytical Geometry, Astronomy, Optics, Civil Engineering, Surveying, Navigation, etc.
3. Literature, embracing Ancient Languages, English Literature, such as Rhetoric, Logic, History, Aesthetics, Criticism, etc.
4. Natural History, embracing Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, Theology in all its branches, Geology, Botany, and lectures on Hygiene.

Modern Languages, Hebrew, and Biblical Literature are to be taught as a supplementary course.

With such a plan, with so able a Faculty, and with such a fine building as is in process of erection; I can but believe that the "East Alabama Male College" will have great success.

Yours, &c,
P.

1. This letter appeared in the *Tuskegee Republican* of August. In the issue of November 26, 1857, P. 2, Daniel Sayre states that "the next issue—December 3, 1857, will commence the sixteenth volume of *Tuskegee Republican*. Having been sole proprietor and editor of the paper for eight years and having secured, as I think I have, the approbation of the party of which it has for the last fifteen years been the exponent, I shall commence the next volume with the hope of making it more extensively useful than ever; and I therefore take the liberty of urging my friends and the public generally, to assist me in securing a still larger circulation." The paper was first titled *Macon Republican*, changed to *Tuskegee Republican*, December 4, 1856. Daniel Sayre, Editor and Proprietor, was born at Franklin, Warren County, Ohio, and died April 7, 1888 in Montgomery. He came to Alabama with his brother, William Sayre, in 1819.—Owen Dictionary of Alabama Biography. He was first a member of the Whig party, later going over to the American Party.

2. East Alabama Male College was incorporated February 1, 1856, West—*History of Methodism in Alabama*. p. 736.

3. "At about eleven o'clock the visitors assembled at the college building, though not more than a fourth could be seated." *Universalist Herald*. Notasulga, Alabama, August 21, 1857, P. 2, Col. 1.

4. The introductory Masonic speech was made by the most worshipful Master, J. McCaleb Wiley—Ibid. Same date. Judge Wiley was at this time a prominent lawyer of Troy, Alabama.

5. Bishop George Foster Pierce was born in Green County, Georgia, February 3, 1811, Son of the celebrated Dr. Lovick Pierce. He was ordained a Bishop by Southern Methodist Church May, 1854. Died in Hancock County, Georgia, September 3, 1884.—*Cyclopedia of Georgia*. Vol. 3, pp 99 & 100.

6. Doctor T. O. Summers of Nashville, Tennessee, who at one time was one of the editors of the *Southern Christian Advocate* published there. *Tuskegee Republican*. December 18, 1856, p. 2.

7. Henry W. Hilliard.

8. Note appended.

(The East Alabama Male College was formally opened in October 28th, 1859, from William F. Samford to the Editor of Board of Trustees in 1857, served as an instructor when the school began.

¹In a letter written from Sunny Slope (near) Auburn, dated October 28th, 1859, from William F. Samford to the Editor of the *Montgomery Mail*, he asks that "the Subjoined list of the faculty be published as follows: Reverend William J. Sassnett,² D. D., President and Professor of Moral Science.

John T. Dunklin,³ Professor of Languages.

Reverend Willam P. Harrison,⁴ Adjunct Professor of Languages.

John W. Glenn,⁵ Professor of Pure Mathematics.

William F. Slaton,⁶ Professor of Applied Mathematics.

John Darby,⁷ Professor of Natural Science.

1. This letter was copied in *Tuskegee Republican*, November 10, 1859, P. 2, Col. 4.

2. William Jeremiah Sassnett was b. in Hancock County, Georgia, April 29, 1820. He was president of La Grange Female College, Georgia, when elected to the Presidency of East Alabama Male College. He continued as such until suspension of operation on account of the War Between the States. He died November 3, 1865.—West. *History of Methodism in Alabama*. pp 738-739. Also, minutes of *Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South*, 1855-1866, p. 574, on file in Department of Archives and History.

William Jeremiah Sasnett, a member of the first graduating class of Oglethorpe University in 1839, and a founder of *Thalia* (Literary Society of that University) was the first of many Oglethorpe alumni who published a book—*Progress* (Nashville, 1855,) Before going to La Grange College, he was a Professor at Emory College. Oglethorpe University conferred an honorary degree of Master of Arts upon William J. Sasnett in 1841.—Tankersley. *College Life at Old Oglethorpe*, University of Georgia Press, Athens, (1951)

Reverend Sassnett was a son-in-law of Bolling Hall, Senior.

3. John Thomas Dunklin, born in Selma, Dallas County, Alabama, April 1, 1826, died June 20, 1886, at Auburn, Alabama. He was retained as teacher of Ancient Languages when East Alabama Male College gave place to Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical College.—*Dictionary of Alabama Biography* by Dr. Thomas M. Owen.

4. William P. Harrison—a Methodist Preacher of the Alabama Conference, of whom West says: "He was one of three noted controversialists of the Methodist Church, who during annual conference session of December 12-21, 1860, attended political meeting and delivered speeches favoring Secession." "In 1858, he published 'Theophilus Walton, a reply Theodosia Earnest'. This was a work of some merit and the cause of Methodism in Alabama, as well as in other places, was streng-

thened by it."—West, (1893,)—History of Methodism in Alabama, pp 707 and 717.

5. John W. Glenn, no doubt a member of the well known Glenn family so closely connected with the history of Auburn. Reverend John Bowles Glenn was at one time President of the Board of Trustees, but there is no record of him as a teacher.

6. William F. Slaton. "In the fifties the present post office corner with the site of Professor William F. Slaton's academy which served as a preparatory school for the Alabama Conference Male College. Colonel Slaton was later superintendent of Atlanta Schools for twenty-five years.—*Auburn, Lovliest Village of the Plains*, p. 73, by Hollifield. William F. Slaton was Major in 37th. Alabama Infantry Regiment, Confederate States Army, having enlisted at Auburn, May 13, 1862—Military Records, Department of Archives and History.

7. John Darby. Not only was John M. Darby one of the first chosen by the Board of Trustees but he had the added distinction of being at the same time a lecturer in Natural Science at the Auburn Female College—*Through the Years* by Peter A. Brannon, published in Montgomery Advertiser—August 6, 1944.

He was born September 27, 1804, in North Adams, Massachusetts. Left fatherless at ten years of age, he was apprenticed to a fuller. He had few opportunities for schooling, but worked at his books while at his machine at the mill. He entered Williams College when he was twenty-three years of age. Following graduation in 1831, he taught at Williamstown Academy, next at Barhamville Seminary, Columbia, South Carolina, in 1842, he was made Professor of Natural Sciences at Wesleyan College, Macon, Georgia. His health failing after several years of teaching here, he returned to Willimstown, where he was appointed professor of Mathematics in Williams College. After a year, however, the state of his health again compelled him to go to a warmer climate and for two years he taught again at Barhamville Seminary. Assuming then the direction of Sigourney Insti-

tute at Culloden, Georgia, he continued at that school for six years. In 1855, he accepted the headship of Auburn (Alabama) Masonic Female College. He died in New York City, September 1, 1877.—Dictionary of American Biography, Volume V, p. 72.

At the Annual Session of the *Alabama Conference* held at Eufaula, Alabama, November 30 to December 8, 1859, the decision was made whereby the school came under the care of the Methodist Church—West (1893) *History of Methodism in Alabama*, pp 738-739.)

A LETTER FROM AUBURN.

Correspondence of the *Republican*.

Mr. Sayre:

Business called me to our neighboring village of Auburn, a few days ago, when I saw something worthy of brief mention. Knowing the interest which you have ever taken in whatever relates to the growth, improvement, or prosperity of our section, and more especially of our country, I am inclined to send you a few hurried notes of my visit.

To the eye of the visitor, approaching Auburn from any quarter, the most conspicuous object of attention is the new Methodist Male College. Your readers are too well advised of the origin, purpose, and history of this noble Institution to render any reference to those points necessary.—Unless they have seen, however, the magnificent pile which the friends of this enterprise have erected, upon one of the most eligible sites in the town, they can form but an inadequate idea of the comprehensive policy which planned, or the enlightened liberality which has thus far carried forward this commendable undertaking. I am not acquainted with the technics of architectural science and can not, therefore, give you the order to which the buildings belong, or the style which has prevailed in its details. To my un-instructed eye it bears an imposing aspect. It is three stories high above the basement, with a noble portico in front, flanked by rectangular towers which rise above the elevation of the main edifice. The building is of brick—plain, unstuccoed front. Especial care has been devoted to the symmetrical adjustment and proportion of the windows. The principal doorway will be finished in an elaborate style. Of the internal arrangements I find more difficulty in speaking. I did not examine the interior during my late visit. At the period of my former inspection, the exterior only was in any considerable state of forwardness. I received assurances, however, of many competent Judges, who pronounce the projected arrangement of the Recitation and Lecture Rooms, the Halls, Library, Chapel, and Laboratories to

be of the most appropriate description. Of one thing I felt confident, while looking at the building, that it is, in every respect a monument worthy of the generous liberality of the Methodists of East Alabama, and it promises to be an Institution of which every enlightened citizen may well feel proud.

You have, on a former occasion, published the names of the Faculty. Dr. Sassnet is the President, a gentleman of wide reputation as a profound thinker, popular speaker, and an effective writer. He had, but a few days previously to my visit, purchased a place of residence in Auburn. The exercises of the Institution are expected to open October 1859, with very flattering promises of remunerative patronage. That the College will receive a creditable support from the outset seems probable, from the large and growing attendance of pupils upon the excellent preparatory school of Mr. W. F. Slaton.

We were pleased to learn while in Auburn, that the Female College there is in a very flourishing condition under the efficient management of the Rev. Mr. Pitts. The number of young ladies is encouraging, indicative of the disposition of the town to maintain an Institution of superior grade.

Auburn is now the residence, as you know, of Col. Samford, while editor of the Signal. By a card in the last issue of that Journal we are informed of the Colonel's retirement from the grave responsibilities of the leading editorship. He has fallen back into the less prominent position of occasional contributor. Even this slender connection with the Signal will doubtless continue to give importance to the political utterances of that sheet in the approaching campaign.

The prospective opening of the Male College is beginning to lend vitality to the landed and mercantile interests of Auburn. I saw a large boarding house or hotel in course of erection, while I learned that there was not an eligible house in the place that was unoccupied. Real estate is held at higher figures, but still at rates that are moderate enough.

One of the most interesting objects of visit in Auburn is the Chemical Laboratory of Prof. John Darby, in which he manufactures his popular Prophylatic Fluid. Upon invitation of Mr. W. H. C. Price, who is also one of the Proprietors, I visited and inspected the Laboratory. Prof. Darby, himself, I learned, is now in New York to attend the session of the National Quarantine Convention, which is to meet there in the latter part of this month. I was much surprised and gratified to see the extent to which the proprietors have been successful in introducing their excellent preparations. Their manufacturing arrangements are of a superior kind. There I saw large leaden retorts in which the primary chemical operations are conducted. There was a network of leaden pipes, crooked, contorted, concoluted; there was a mill in which to reduce some of the ingredients to powder; there were barrels of crude materials ranged in lusty rows; there were huge glass carboys filled with the Fluid in every stage of its progress, from the clear, colorless liquid as it pours from the hissing retorts, to the deeper and more decided tinge which it receives as it advances to completion; there were gallons of the pure, perfected glowingly purple Fluid ready to bottle and dispatch. Ascending to the second story I saw boxes piled on boxes, filled with bottles still unpacked from the northern manufactories. On tables ranged round the room were hundreds of bottles all corked, standing like well trained soldiers in battle array—waiting to receive the seal, the label, and the wrapper. Descending again, I looked into a side room, into which they were just tumbling the contents of three large boxes of printed matter just received from the press—comprising tens of thousands of pamphlets, bills, posters, fly sheets, envelopes, labels, and wrappers. While there, too, I saw a bag of corks—enough I was told to stop the mouths of from thirty to forty thousand bottles of the Prophylatic. In one of these rooms the carpenter's hammer and saw and plane are busy fashioning, out of our native pine, hundreds of boxes in which to pack and transport the Fluid. But I must omit many things of interest which I there saw, as the systematic arrangements for filing papers, taking care of letters, registering advertisements, noting orders and keeping accounts with hundreds of druggists, merchants, and editors. Indeed

just here in our midst, and that within a few months there has sprung up a business which seems destined to become one of the most extensive manufacturing interest of the southern country. It is home labor, and deserves home patronage.

But I must bring my desultory sheet to a close. Wishing our neighboring town success in all her enterprises and thanking you for your patient hearing of my hastily spun yarn.

I am, Y'rs, &c.,

Rambler.

(*Tuskegee Republican*, April 17, 1859, Tuskegee, Alabama.)

DARBY'S AIR CONTRIVANCE

THE MIASMOMETER. — We have just learner that Prof. DARBY, of Auburn, Alabama, has invented a piece of apparatus, which he calls by the above name, and the object of which is to determine accurately the amount of impurity in any given quantity of air. He does this by causing the air to pass by an ingenious contrivance, through a small quantity of his Prophylactic Fluid, and measuring it as it passes. The Fluid forms the most delicate test for any organic substance known, and such a test as any one can appreciate immediately. The action of organic substance upon it causes it to lose the beautiful purple color which it has.

It is so arranged that the air can be taken from any locality; from the upper or lower part of a room, from a sick bed, or even from the breath of a patient; in fact from any place where it is desirable to test the purity of the atmosphere. Its action is certain and sure, and we have no doubt but that it will prove immensely valuable for such test.

For instance, it is desirable to know the relative amount of organic matter in the atmosphere where malarial fevers prevail, compared with that where other diseases are common, and thus it becomes an important aid in determining the part which the atmosphere has to do in producing these diseases.

By varying the test used, any product which can exist in the atmosphere, any gaseous body, may be sought for with entire certainty in the result.

The discovery of the manner of arriving at such results, and the invention of apparatus for such a purpose, will add new laurels to the already widely extended reputation of Prof. DARBY. We hope to see a more extended notice of the miasmoter.

Montgomery Mail
November 18, 1858.
P. 1, Col. 1.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LaPLACE

METHODIST CHURCH*

By Mary DeBardeleben

(Mary Christine DeBardeleben was born and reared in Macon County, at La Place, Alabama, now known as Shorter. She was the daughter of Rev. John F. DeBardeleben and Sara Rebecca Haden. Her mother having died in Mary's infancy, she was reared by her grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Haden, who with her husband Joseph Thomas Haden, was one of the early settlers in Macon County. Her family came from North Carolina, and his from Tennessee.

Mary joined the La Place Methodist Church when she was eleven years of age, and "grew up in it," so to speak. When a young teacher at Livingston, under Miss Julia Tutwiler, as President, she volunteered to go as a missionary to Japan, and went to Nashville, Tennessee, for preparation. However, becoming impressed with the need of Negro women and children for adequate training, she asked to be assigned to the home field instead of Japan and was sent by the women of the church to serve among the negroes in Augusta, Georgia. She served in this field seven years and was transferred by the women's organization to teach Bible at Oklahoma University, in the school of Religion. The remaining years of her active educational career were spent in religious work among college young people, except for a brief time as teacher of English at Shorter High School. She is now retired, living in the Shorter community where she serves the Methodist Church as a teacher of the Anti-Can't Class.

Among those present at the celebration were Dr. F. A. Boswell of Elmore, Alabama, a grandson of Rev. John Boswell, also descendants of James Howard at whose home the oldest Methodist Society in Macon County was organized. The Sermon

*This paper was obviously presented at the hundredth anniversary of the founding of this church—August 19, 1934.

of the day was delivered by Rev. W. J. DeBardeleben of Atlanta, Georgia, whose father was an early member of the La Place Congregation and was licensed to preach from this charge.)

West's¹ History of Alabama Methodism has this to say about the beginning of Methodism in this community.

"Tradition says that the Rev. John Boswell (1789-1853), he then being presiding elder of the Chattahoochee District, organized a (Methodist) Society in 1834 in the house of James Howard (1776-1856) at Cross Keys (now Shorter) about 16 miles west of Tuskegee and that a log house was built soon after the organization of that society for a place of worship." James Howard and family were members at Cross Keys. Miss Annette Howard of Tuskegee thinks that this Cross Keys Society is the oldest Methodist Society in Macon County.

As regards the building of the present house of worship Mrs. Judkins of our community thinks it was done in 1859, as a girl attending the old school at LaPlace, — its site on the hill yonder opposite the Church — she remembers the boys getting putty from the workmen here and bringing it in mischief to the girls at the school as chewing gum.

This Church was formerly known as Paine Chapel in honor of Bishop Paine.² My mother speaking in reminiscent mood of these early days says: "I must have been 11 or 12 years old, (it must have been in 1866 or 1867 for it was not so long after my father moved back from the plantation to LaPlace, and he moved in November or December after the surrender in 1865) — I remember a portly, well-dressed gentleman sitting inside the altar rail, and some one said it was Bishop Paine." (He perhaps had come to dedicate the Church). "That same morning Mr. John Glenn, she continues, was ordained a local preacher. He was then a school teacher at Glenn's school house, near Neal's

¹ Anson West.

² Bishop Robert Paine.

chapel then on the Tuskegee circuit, now known as the LaPlace circuit. Mr. John was father of Mrs. Jim Martin, Rev. Bascom Glenn of the Alabama Conference, also of Jerry and Capers Glenn of the S. Georgia Conference. Rev. Bascom Glenn of First Church, Pensacola and John Glenn of Ark. Conf. are two of his grandsons."

Early families connected with the church were the Howards, Trimble, Walkers, Lightfoots, Judkins, Hardens, DeBardeleben, Baileys, Williams, Bradfords, Swearingens, Hamiltons, Cambells, "Old Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton" says my mother, "were great-grand-parents of our Mrs. John Hannon." She thinks they came direct from Scotland. They were parents of Mrs. Campbell, an active member of this church. Mr. John Hamilton of Montgomery is also one of their grandsons. Mr. Monroe Nicholson who married Tumpie (Eliza Marie) DeBardeleben (my father's own sister) was also a member. The Rev. Jim Boyd, a brother of Harry Boyd, was, my mother thinks, licensed to preach from this church as was also my father. Of this last she is not sure. Because, he my father, was at one time a member of Union.

One of the families that has made the greatest contribution to the LaPlace Church (Payne Chapel as it was called in those early days) was the Lightfoot family. Its service has been continuous since the early founding of the Church. Captain Philip Lightfoot, as I dimly knew him in my early childhood was an earnest member and leader from the beginning: and his great love of the Church, his enthusiasm and talent for leadership seemed handed down to his son, Dr. John L. Lightfoot, a beloved and much respected physician. For many years Dr. John served untiringly as Sunday School Superintendent and steward. The torch of religious leadership then passed to his son, Dr. P. M. Lightfoot. Dr. Lightfoot, Jr., his son, served for years as Steward. In 1910 he organized a group of young people in the Church as the "Anti Can't Class." For forty-five years this class has lived and served not only the Church but the Community. It is today the most active group in the Church. Mrs. Steele Lightfoot Bibb, great granddaughter of Captain Philip, still carries the

torch he lighted. She serves today as organist, Steward and worker, in the class her father organized.

My mother and my grandmother have both told me of a great revival here about 1867 or 1868. My mother says:

“When the Rev. B. B. Ross father of the noted chemist of Auburn; was preacher on this circuit, 1867 perhaps, there was a glorious revival at the church.

“Your mamma, papa, Uncle Billy DeBardeleben, quite a number of the larger boys and girls were converted at that time. Also Uncle Will Haden (Dr. Wm. Haden grandfather’s brother) whose grand-son Will Cloud is now a member of the West Texas Conf. I know we used to have a very fine Sunday School. As good as any country church.”

Dr. Lightfoot and I were trying to recall how the church looked before it was remodeled years ago. There was a white fence around it with fancy-cut palings; two gates, two doors, and two distinct divisions inside. For Male and Female created he them and there must be no undue freedom of the sexes in those days. Of course this did not prevent your best boy friend from making a race for it and sitting just across the partition from you. As I remember it, the church was a gloomy sort of place. As a little girl I would not have gone into it alone for worlds. There was supposed to be a “hant” under the back bench on the men’s side, according to the information imparted in a sepulchral tone by my nurse.

Mrs. Fanny Boyd, mother of Harry Boyd and Mrs. Solomon Roberts) (he by the way was a minister on this circuit and here found his bride) was the organist as far back as I can remember. Altho a Presbyterian since her church had no minister at the time, Mrs. Boyd gave her loyal devoted service to the Methodist. The song I most often associate with her is “The Rock that is Higher Than I”.

I did not claim this church as mine when I was a little girl. My Baptist Aunt and Grandmother took me to their Sunday school held regularly at the old Baptist Church in LaPlace. I remember, however, several of the men who preached there. They were often in our home. Most of them I remember — it is a shame to say it — with a childlike distaste on account of the long prayers and sermons through which I had to sit quietly or suffer the consequences on getting home. Old Brother Motley and Brother Smiley were two of these. Then there was old Brother Storey, an interesting erratic revivalist before whom I quailed both for his stormy utterances and for his power with the Lord. Many interesting stories are told of Uncle Storey. One I remember hearing has to do with a certain man we will call by the name of Steve. Uncle Storey had given the altar call. By fair means or foul he had about got personal. "Come on up here, Steve," he said. Still Steve sat unmoved. "I'll stop right here and pray the Lord to strike you dead." With that Steve moved. Later, on the outside of the church, a friend asked, "Why did you go up Steve?" "Why", he said, "I knew Uncle Storey was just fool enough to do what he said he would," replied Steve.

Of dear old Brother Lewis Dowdell I stood in awe. Even while I loved him. I avoided him; for he was always enquiring into the state of my little girl's soul and insisting that I needed a shouting, happy conversion experience.

The year Brother Skipper (he married Miss Lou Martin some of you will remember) came to this charge, my father had just died and that same little girl's soul found expression for its love and loyalty by joining the church that father had served so unselfishly, so devotedly thru the years. I became a Methodist; and this became my church.

Brother Skipper was a live wire and during the revival he held that summer a number joined, among them the present Dr. Lightfoot, then a boy of sixteen and Addie Boyd whom we all knew as a member of this community. Another event that took

place during Brother Skipper's term of service was a district conference. Didn't we turn things inside out and upside down to entertain such an illustrious gathering!

Not since I could remember had there ever been such a gathering of the faithful. Dr. A. J. Lamar, I remember, was the star guest. He was entained in our home and he kissed me goodbye on leaving and he preached the grandest sermon I ever had heard up to that time. It was a missionary sermon. We know his connection with the Publishing house at Nashville and something of his great life of service of the Church at large.

Among other preachers who have served this work, men that stand out in my girlish memory are the guests we have with us this morning, the Rev. James M. Glenn, Rev. Chas. Motley, and Rev. Eugene Crawford, for many years secretary of the Ala. Conference and also a member of our Social Service commission with headquarters in Washington.

I can find account of only two funerals held in this church. Perhaps there were others. These are that of Mr. Willie Carr and that of Mr. Will Lamar.

Among the weddings I remember two: Those of Carribec Lightfoot and Percy Huffham and Lillian Boyd and Bob Haden. I am sure there were others but I do not now recall them.

HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF MACON COUNTY.*

By H. M. King

NUMBER VI.

Gen. Floyd's Official Report of Battle of Ottissee — Officers who distinguished Themselves — Importance of Battle of Ottissee — Jackson, Coffee and Claiborne-Floyd Again In The Field — Forts Bainbridge and Hull — Camp Defiance — Battle of Calebee — Capt. Butts Killed And Buried On The Field — Gen. Floyd's Official Report — Returns Again To Fort Mitchell — Indian Account Of The Battle Of Calebee.

From Fort Mitchell Gen. Floyd forwarded to Gen. Pinckney, the senior officer then in the South, his official report of the battle of the Ottissees. It will be observed that he makes no allusion to the skirmish with the Indians at the foot of Haden's Hill, one mile East of the battle ground:

Gen. Floyd to Gen. Pinkney,
Catahouche, Dec. 4, 1813.

SIR:—I have the honor to communicate to you an account of the action fought on the 29th, ult. between part of the force under my command, and a large body of the Creek Indians. Having received information that the hostile Indians were as-

*Eighteen historical sketches were contributed to the Macon Mail during 1880 and 1881. Set out herewith are Numbers 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 17. The subsequent story published in the Tuskegee paper in May gives some follow-up references. Should any reader of theses sketches know of the existence of other numbers, it is requested that they be forwarded to the Department of Archives and History in order that more of the early history of the County can be set out. (Ed.)

semble at Autossee, I proceeded thither with the force under my command, accompanied by about 300 friendly Indians. We encamped the 28th at night, within ten miles of our place of destination, and the next morning by half past 6, were formed for action in front of the town.

It was intention to have completely surrounded the enemy, by deploying the right of my force on Calebe creek, at the mouth of which, I was informed, the town stood; and resting the left on the river below the town; — but to our surprise, as day dawned, we perceived a second town 500 yards below Autossee. The plan of attack was immediately changed; five companies immediately surrounded the lower town, and the remainder attacked the upper. The battle now became general. The Indians presented themselves at every point, and fought with the desperate bravery of real fanatics; but the well directed fire of the artillery, with the charged bayonet, soon forced them to take shelter in their houses, and many, it is believed, secured themselves in caves previously prepared in the high bank of the river. The friendly Indians were to cross the river above the town, for the purpose of taking such as might attempt to escape; but owing to the coldness of the water, they declined after making the attempt; they crossed the creek, thronged to our flanks and fought with an intrepidity worthy of any troops. At 9 o'clock, the enemy was completely driven from the plain, and the houses of both towns, wrapped in flames, to the number of about 400. It is difficult to determine the strength of the enemy, but the chiefs say there were assembled the warriors of eight towns, for the defence of Autossee, it being their beloved ground, on which, they proclaimed, no white man could approach without inevitable destruction.

I have the honor to be, etc.

JOHN FLOYD.

On his staff were Captain Newman, Assistant Adjutant-General, and his Aides Majors Crawford and Pace; Surgeons Clopton and Williamson.

Brigadier-General Shackleford was second in command with field officers Majors Watson, Booth and Freeman, Captains Thomas, of Artillery; Irwin, Patterson and Steele, of Cavalry; Adams, Barton, Broadenax, Cleveland, Cunningham, King, Lee, Little and Myrick, of the Infantry line; Captain Terrell, A. Q. M.

These were all representative names in Georgia at that day, and are known in the history of the present throughout the Gulf States.

Among the subalterns, whose names were gazetted for gallant conduct were Lieutenants Hendon, Montgomery, Strong and Tennille; the last of whom received a wound in the right arm, which resulted in its amputation by Surgeon Williamson, shortly after the return to Fort Mitchell.

The battle of Ottissee is for many reasons entitled to prominence in the history of the war 1813-14. Ottissee was one of the Confederate towns, the nearest and the next in importance to Tuckahatchee the Richmond of the Indian Confederacy, and to which all military movements in the South converged; and where the bloody Indian warfare eventually terminated.

Gen. Jackson, advancing from the North, found a Sharpsburg and a Wilderness at Talladega and Emuckfau.

Gen. Coffee, from the West, succeeded no better, Gen. Claiborne, on the South, retired from Econochaca (the holy ground) bearing more cypress than laurel. To the daring Floyd and his resolute Georgians from the East; still belongs the glory of first forcing the gates of the inner Citadel.

Ottissee had been the hot-bed of the rebellion, and it is safe to say, and without prejudice, to the daring exploits of other gallant chieftians that, weak and staggering under this terrible

blow from Floyd, the hostile tribes never fully recovered, up to the day when Jackson gave them the final *coup-de-grave* at Cheloco Litobixee (Horse-Shoe Bend).

Little of interest occurred in the territorial limits of Macon County for some weeks after Gen. Floyd retired. The Indians, houseless, homeless and demoralized, scattered over the nation, some with their ponies and packs took the trail to Pensacola, others to the Everglades of East Florida; some more destitute and desperate, took to the fastnesses of the swamps, or crossed the river to swell the number of warriors who were congregating higher up the Tallapoosa River for the final desperate struggle against Jackson.

After six weeks spent at Fort Mitchell in attending to his wounded and collecting supplies and ammunition, and feeling himself sufficiently recovered, Gen. Floyd again put his army in motion over the same route, his destination this time being the great Tuchabatchee town. His force comprised about 1300 troops of all arms and about 400 Indian allies, under McIntosh, Marshall and Timpoochee Barnard, who were aided in the command by Gen. T. S. Woodward.

Advancing one day's march, he erected Fort Bainbridge; leaving here a small garrison and supplies, he proceeded another day's march and erected Fort Hull. Leaving a garrison and supplies at this point, he followed the "Big Trail" across Persimmon Creek, then leaving it near Calibee, he diverged to the right and halted for the night on a little elevated table-land, in the open pine forest, and between the head-waters of little Calebee and another small stream; the swamps of which streams approached the confines of his camp on the east and west. Those streams flowed in a south-westerly direction, emptying into the large Calebee, not far away. This position which he called Camp Defiance, was about twelve miles east from Otissee battle ground. Gen. Floyd's march had been very slow and tedious on account of the high water consequent on the heavy winter rains, and delays incident to fortifying and protecting his

line of retreat. Having met no hostile Indians, and having little apprehension of an attack, he went into camp on a dark, drizzly evening, Jan. 26th, 1814, intending to cross the creek and pursue his march to the river on the following.

Fifteen mounted men were sent back to Fort Hull, some miles to the rear, to bring corn for the artillery horses. These men returned during the night unmolested, gave additional confidence to security from attack. Albeit Capt. Howard, and other old Indian countrymen, cautioned him against the wiles of the subtle foe. At twenty minutes past 5 in the morning the soldiers were aroused from their peaceful repose by the rapid rifle reports and the terrible war-whoops of the Indians who, approaching in the darkness of night, and under cover of the two swamps, were almost in the camp before their presence was discovered. The men were quickly up and in arms. The attack of the savages was fearless and desperate. Attacked on two sides, the troops were at first thrown into some confusion, but rapidly forming under their cool and courageous officers, they charged right and left, driving the enemy back under cover at the point of the bayonet. Timpoochee Barnard, with his warriors, was among the foremost in the fray. Having driven the Indians into the swamps, on either side, the troops, protecting themselves as best they could held their lines until dawn; so soon as it was sufficiently light, the lines were formed under Majors Watson, Booth and Cleveland, and a charge ordered of the full front. The enemy now gave way in confusion.

Captain Hamilton followed up the route with a charge of his cavalry, supported by the rifle companies of Captain Merriwether and Ford, and Timpoochee Barnard's Uchees. The pursuit was continued until the Indians crossed the Big Calibee.

The loss of the white troops was 17 killed and 182 wounded, the Indians allies had 5 killed and 15 wounded. The number of Indians killed and wounded was never known, but variously estimated at from 20 to 200 killed and about double the number wounded.

After the fighting was over and the Indians had retired, hasty intrenchments and breast works were made about the camp — the stable locked after the horse had been stolen.

Having done this, and buried his dead, among them was the gallant Captain, Samuel Butts, whose loss was grievously felt and much deplored.

Gen. Floyd fell back to Fort Hull, and thence to Fort Mitchell, the time of his six months men having about expired. We append hereto Gen. Floyd's official report:

Gen. Floyd to Gen. Pinkney.

Camp Defiance, Jan. 27, 1814.

SIR — I have the honor to acquaint your excellency that this morning at 20 minutes past 5 o'clock, a very large body of hostile Indians made a desperate attack upon the army under my command. They stole upon the centinels, fired on them, and with great impetuosity rushed upon our line: in 20 minutes the action became general and our front, right and left flanks were closely pressed, but the brave and gallant conduct of the field and line officers, and the firmness of the men repelled them at every point.

The steady firmness, and incessant fire of Capt. Thomas' artillery, and Capt. Adams' riflemen, preserved our front lines. The enemy rushed within 30 yards of the artillery, and Capt. Broadnax, who commanded one of the piquet guards, maintained his post with great bravery, until the enemy gained his rear, and then cut his way through them to the army. As soon as it became light enough to distinguish objects, I ordered Majs. Watson's and Freeman's battalions to wheel up at right angles with Majors Booth's and Cleveland's battalions, who formed the right wing, to prepare for the charge. The order for the charge was promptly obeyed, and the enemy fled in every direction before the bayonet. From the affusion of blood, and the number of head dresses and war clubs found in various directions, their

loss must have been considerable independent of their wounded.

I have the honor to be, etc.,

JOHN FLOYD.

The battlefield of Calleebee is about half a mile North-west from Union Church, cleared and cultivated as part of the plantation of Mrs. M. K. Wheat.

Capt. Butts was buried at the root of a large pine tree, his sole monument being a large nail half driven into the East side of the tree at the height of about five feet.

Many years afterwards his family sent to have his remains moved to his home in Hancock County, Georgia, but the place of his interment could not be identified.

Mr. John B. Collins, an intelligent gentleman, one of the earliest settlers of the county, now a citizen of Columbus, Georgia, told the writer that as late perhaps as 1848 the tree with the nail driven in it was pointed out to him by Gen. Thos. Woodward, who was present when he was killed and helped to consign him to this, his last resting place in the dark shades of the forest. Well may it be said of him, as it was said in response to the roll call of the name of the gallant D'Agincourt. "*Mort sur le champ de bataille.*"

The Indian account as afterwards given to old settlers, by Sowanoke Jack, Jim Boy and Weatherford was in substance about as follows:

Failing to receive the aid expected from the Spanish at Pensacola, the *the* Indians began drifting back to their old hunting grounds — almost destitute of ammunition and provision.

Weatherford wandering back towards Tukabatchee, after his escape at Ecanochaca, fell in with Sowanoka Jack.

They built their council fire, lighted their pipes, and proceeded to discuss the situation. The outlook was gloomy enough to appall the stoutest Warrior. The gleam of bayonets was seen on every hand and the deadly circle was narrowing daily. While defeat and probable annihilation were questions of time only.

The final conclusion was that they should collect as many as possible of the scattered tribes East of the River, and under the command of Jack to await developments; to retrieve their lost fortunes if opportunity offered; also to take trail for the everglades of East Florida.

Claiborne had returned South and there was no immediate danger from that quarter; but Floyd was again preparing to take the field, with, as they were informed, large supplies of provisions and ammunition, with which to store posts, on his line of march; so it was resolved to turn their immediate attention to him.

So soon as Gen. Floyd left the "Big Trail", with the swamps and creeks in his front to be crossed, they thought their long wished opportunity had arrived.

While Floyd's troops slept and dreamed, the Indians, on the West side of McGirth's old "Still House Branch", almost in rifle shot of his camp, were in deep consultation.

Weatherford proposed to make an attack on the Georgians while they were crossing the Calleebee with the purpose of capturing the trains and ammunition, if nothing more.

His proposition was over-ruled and he left the council, accompanied by a few Tuskegees to watch Floyd from the front.

Jack at once determined to attack the camp, and Weatherford had not got beyond the hearing of their guns when the attack was made.

The Indians relied upon getting to close quarters, most of them having neither powder or balls; many being armed only with bows, or war clubs.

During the fight they were heard repeatedly asking each other for powder or bullets, as one or the other was exhausted.

This want of ammunition saved the Georgians from more serious losses, or possibly defeat.

The Chiefs claimed to have had between 1500 and 2000 Warriors, but, they as other commanders, understood the strategy of reporting numbers.

(From THE MACON MAIL, Vol. V, No. 48, Tuskegee, Ala., Wednesday, February 9, 1881.) "Page 2, Col. 1."

NUMBER X.

Eight Years Without Record—White Settlers, And Indian Settlements—Gen. T. S. Woodward—Organic Act, Ets..

For the eight years intervening between the Treaty of Fort Jackson and the Creek Treaty of Cusseta, this territory was occupied by the Indians, who at peace with their white neighbors, hunted, fished, trapped, or tilled their corn patches, with little interruption.

The first white settlements were made in the Western part of the county, about Line Creek and the old Federal Road.

Judge L. B. Strange had an Indian store at Fort Decatur; Gen. T. S. Woodward settled in Little Calebee, near the old Calebee battle ground, and about the spot where Mr. John Motley built the house now occupied by Mr. Reid Smith.

The Cornells, half-breeds settled down near Persimmon, in Section 16, Township 16, Range 24, about the site of the old Tuskegee Town. This family owned slaves and other property. Zack McGirth lived across the persimmon from old Tuskegee. — Gen. William Walker, Indian Agent lived at Fort Hull; he was a man of great influence among the Indians; who regarded him as a brave and honorable man; from his great firmness and decision of character, the Indians called him Wakah-Chula (Old Bull.)

Among all the early settlers, none were better known or more prominent than Gen. Thomas Stokes Woodward. He was born in Elbert County, Georgia, about 1796, and inherited a strain of Indian blood from his great-grandmother. Gen Woodward came to Alabama as early as 1808 or 1809. He spent the greater part of his life among the Creek Indians, and perhaps had a more extensive knowledge of them than any man of his day, or since. He was among the first settlers of the county and of the town of Tuskegee.

He remained here until 1848, when he moved to Arkansas to find a new country. From Arkansas after a few years residence he removed to Winn Parish, Louisiana, where he died in 1862.

Gen. Woodward was a man of great energy and enterprise, and of strong native intellect, but his life among the Indians unfitted him for the humdrum routine of civilization.

During the year 1858, while living in Louisiana, he wrote a series of letters to the old Montgomery Mail; which letters were afterwards published in book form and entitled "Reminiscences of T. S. Woodward." This book contained much valuable information concerning the times of which it treats; with many facts about the Indians not to be found elsewhere. But few copies of the book are now to be found.

In stature, Gen. Woodward was very tall, muscular and erect in carriage. He was known among the Indians as Chula-Tarleh (old Pine Tree.)

Along about the period of which we were speaking, some settlements were also made Eastward, along the route of the old Federal Road.

The Big Warrior lived at Warrior Stand. George Stone settled at Creek Stand, and near by at the first white house, in the county, lived Enoch Lewis. This house known as Choke-hatke (white house), was afterwards occupied by Edward Cook and Nathaniel F. Collins, who kept a store there.

Of the location of the Indian towns, we have written in a previous number.

In 1830, the General Assembly passed an act extending jurisdiction over the Indian Territory which provoked discussion with the General Government heretofore mentioned; and which reached its climax under the Act organizing the Creek Purchase into counties.

Section 8 of the Act of the General Assembly, "To establish certain counties therein named", approved December 18, 1832 reads as follows:

That all that tract of country bounded as follows, to-wit: Beginning at the North-East corner of Township 19, Range 26; thence West along said line, until it intersects the Range line dividing Ranges 23 and 24; thence South along said line until it reaches the Township line, between Townships 18 and 19; thence West along said line, until it intersects the Township line, dividing Townships 17 and 18; thence West along said line until it reaches the Tallapoosa River, thence down said river until it intersects the Montgomery line, at or near the mouth of Line Creek; thence South-East along said Montgomery line until it reaches the Township line dividing Townships 13 and 14; thence East along said line until it reaches the three mile stake in Range 26; thence North through the center of Townships 14, 15, 16, and 17, until it reaches the Township line dividing Townships 17 and 18; thence East along said line, until it intersects the Range line dividing Ranges 26 and 27; thence North along said line to the

beginning; which shall constitute and form one separate and distinct county to be called and known by the name of MACON.

(From THE MACON MAIL, Vol. VI, No. 1, Tuskegee, Alabama, Wednesday, March 16, 1881. (Page 2, Col. 3.)

NUMBER XI.

TUSKEGEE LAID OFF—NEW MAIL ROUTE—EARLY
SETTLERS, AC. AC.

The East-half of section 30, township 14, range 24 was conveyed to William Walker and Daniel McDougald, by Talla-Wah-Tustenuggee.—These gentlemen deeded to the county for public purposes, 80 acres, being the south-west quarter of the tract, and upon this 80 acres the Court House Square now is.

The surveys were made and lots laid off by Lind Harris.

In 1832 the Congress of the U. S. made an appropriation "for the purpose of opening a public highway over the most practicable route from Columbus, in the State of Georgia, to Line Creek, the eastern boundary of Alabama, in the direction of Montgomery."

Capt. Jack Martin, of Montgomery, was the Commissioner to survey and select the route, and to award the contracts.

During the following year the contracts were forwarded. The first twenty miles, running from Line Creek east, extended to the Brick Yard branch, one and-a-half miles west of Tuskegee; this was awarded to Col. J. H. and Major G. Howard, then of Lowndes County.

The second twenty miles, running eastward beyond the line of Macon and Russell, was awarded to Col. Wade Allen, of Montgomery, the father of Gen. W. W. Allen, now of that city. These contracts were carried to completion during 1834, and the new road became the mail route thenceforth. Surveys of the new

territory were rapidly prosecuted, and the county filled up as if by magic.—Among the early settlers in the western part of the county was Mr. Rob't. Haden, who sometime in 1832 settled what is known as the Goldthwaite place. He became a large land owner. He was noted for his energy, shrewdness and hospitality.

He was a Union man in politics, and he, with his five sons, Robert, Alexander, George, Joseph and Edward, were among the first avowed Democrats in the county.

J. C. Abercrombie, Esq., and Col. R. H. Abercrombie are his grandsons.

The Green brothers, Amos, Zara and Baldwin, settled on the east side of Cupahatchee Creek near the present crossing on the Montgomery road, where they erected a wood shop and a blacksmith shop.

Amos married a daughter of Col. J. H. Howard, and Zara, a daughter of another early settler, Mr. William Dick.

Baldwin, a quiet, clever, industrious young man, was while hunting, shot and killed by Indians in the Cupahatchee swamp.

There was much jealousy among the whites and Indians, as to their hunting grounds.

The State of Alabama, in 1830, prohibited the Indians, under penalty of confiscation of their arms or traps, from hunting in the limits of the State; for a second offence, imprisonment.

The Indians, in retaliation, resented any encroachments on their hunting grounds; and to this feeling, Baldwin Green probably owed his death.

The Thompsons, Wildridge and Jessee, twin brothers, settled near Line Creek. They were both active, energetic men, and the former being afterwards the first Sheriff of Macon County. Dr. J. C. Boyd, whose death was recently published in this paper, was one of the prominent citizens of that early period.

Capt. Bird Fitzpatrick was among the first settlers in the lower part of the county.

One among the early residents of Macon writes us concerning Captain Fitzpatrick:

"The late Capt. Bird Fitzpatrick, a brother of Ex-Governor and Ex-Senator Ben Fitzpatrick, settled in Macon as early as 1831; if so, Capt. Joseph Fitzpatrick — his son, and now an esteemed citizen of the county—has lived longer in Macon county—than any other man.

And in this connection I must beg your patience for the relation of a little incident in the history of my old friend.

The Fitzpatricks at an early date settled in Montgomery and Autauga counties; Bird, a vivacious and spirited young man, married Miss Graves, a handsome and accomplished and pious young lady. Under her softening influences he became much concerned about his own spiritual welfare. He desired to be baptized, but was sorely perplexed as to which was the true orthodox method. He studied the Bible; he sought advice, and prayed earnestly for light; still no light came.

In this perplexity, being a Democrat and strict Constructionist, he resolved to fall back upon a Constitutional interpretation.

The particular clause under consideration was: "Phillip and the Eunuch went down into the water, and Phillip baptized the Eunuch, and they came up out of the water."

This he resolved to follow literally, so he got a minister, drove down to Knowles creek, a beautiful clear stream in Autauga, there they alighted, went down into the water, he knelt down, the minister dipped water with his hands and poured it upon the Captain's head, and they came up out of the water, thus fulfilling the precept."

Capt. Bird Fitzpatrick died recently in Bullock County, after a long life of charity and usefulness.

Mr. Stephen Day settled first on Cupahatchee, and afterwards the Cox place on the road from Tuskegee to Cowles' Station. David Carter settled near the Clait place.

Wm. Dick moved from Autauga county, and was the first settler in Honey Cut Beat, near Dick's Creek.

(From THE MACON MAIL, Vol. VI, No. 2, page 2, col. 2, Tuskegee, Alabama; Wednesday Morning, March 23, 1881.)

NUMBER XII.

OTHER EARLY SETTLERS—COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AND OTHER OFFICERS—CAPT. JAMES ABERCROMBIE—
JUDGE JOSEPH P. CLOUGH NARRATIVE OF AN OLD
SETTLER—BILLY SIMMONS—"BILLY JOHN"—HIS DEATH—
INDIAN NEIGHBORS—THE FIRST POST OFFICE—A BOY'S
EXPERIENCE . . .

Government surveys having been completed and the new Mail Route opened, settlements were made all along its route, east from Tuskegee.

James Allen, a brother of Colonel Wade Allen, settled just above the spring on this side of the Turnpike.

Chas. S. Miller on Miller's Hill; Joe Sistrunk where Mrs. Sistrunk still lives; Peter Applebly settled just beyond, and Joel Wil on the hill, north side of the road, and just this side of the Dill old place. An old well and some white mulberry trees mark the spot; Roger Moffett opposite—the Kelly place; John McCoy over on the next hill; W. J. Cowell, the Stratton place; Simeon Langly, the Roger's place; F. McLendon, on the north side of the road just beyond where Squire S. R. Grimes now lives. David Turnipseed, the Brown place at Society Hill; James Torbert and Daniel Workman, at the Hill.

The first County Commissioners, to our best information, were Wm. Walker, John Hudleston, and Abraham Jackson, from whom came the name of Jackson's Bridge.

Capt. James Abercrombie Represented the counties of Montgomery and Macon in the Senate, and David P. Clough was the first Representative ever sent from the county. Of these two worthy gentlemen, more than a mere mention is necessary.

Sometime in 1833, Capt. James Abercrombie settled in the Talmucheesee flats; afterwards he purchased a part of what is now known as the Shorter place; this he afterwards sold to Dr. J. C. Boyd. In the same year '33 he was in the Senate as before stated, and served in the Legislature for several terms. He afterwards removed to Russell county, which county he Represented again in the House and Senate. Also Represented this Congressional District at Washington in 1851-4.

From Russell county after the expiration of his Congressional term, he removed to Florida, where he died in 1861.

Of commanding stature, great physical strength and energy; of indomitable will and perseverance, and withal frank, generous and impulsive; he was man of mark among men, and no man of his day, or since perhaps exercised so great influence in his section of the State. Few of his children now survive; Mrs. Gen. James Clanton, of Montgomery, is the only one living in this part of the State.

Joseph Clough came probably from Pike county, and settled with his brothers, George and Zachariah, and Mr. David Chapman, near Clough's Store.

He had before been a Representative in the General Assembly, and was in 1834 the first from this county. He was afterwards elected to the office of Judge of the County Court, which office he held for many years.

Sampson Lanier was the first Clerk of the Court, and Wildridge Thompson the first Sheriff. David Chapman and Abraham

Jackson probably the first Justices of the Peace, but concerning these matters the records are imperfect and unsatisfactory.

In closing this sketch we cannot add anything more graphic and interesting than an extract from a communication by one of the most worthy, most respected, and most intelligent of the old settlers, he writes:

“My personal knowledge of Macon and its history commences on the first day of January, 1834.

On the night of the last day of 1833 in a pine thicket one-fourth of a mile east of Line Creek, was camped a white family of considerable number, with negroes, horses, wagons and stock, all anxiously awaiting the dawn of the next day, for they were then within four miles of the spot which was to be their new home, in a new country, and among the Indians.

At early dawn the camp was abandoned, and crossing the Cupahatchee Creek; we were soon in sight of some skinned pine pole cabins; our future home.

The location of these cabins was about 200 yards south of the W. J. Howard house, at the present Cross Keys, then known as Simmon's Grocery.

West of us 150 yards was Billy Simmon's Grocery. Its contents, about ten bars of soap, one keg of powder, one jug of whiskey, six strings of glass beads, one piece of blue calico, and one of red, one small keg of pigtail tobacco, a few bars of lead, and a three-stringed fiddle.

Everybody knew Billy; he was single then. A good, kind-hearted man; he died some years since.

Next to Billy Simmon's lived “Billy-John”, a good old Indian. He liked whiskey; loved to play with the children and get “tuckaliga” (bread) and “opisewa” (milk).

And here let me relate the sad story of Billy's death.

Billy went one day to Bob Haden's store, and there meeting with a young Indian, they both got drunk; returning homeward they got into a fight in which Billie unfortunately struck his adversary with a stick and killed him.

Knowing the penalty under the Indian Code, the next morning he drew his blanket around him and quietly laid himself down on the floor of his cabin to meet his fate.

He had not long to wait; about 10 o'clock Davy-Harjo and two other Indians, with loaded rifles, approached the cabin, and, without explanation, deliberately shot him dead, as he lay.

This incident presents a heroic submission to the penalty of Indian law, one of the marked characteristics of the race.

Immediately after his death, Billy's wife, without wail or remonstrance, proceeded to dig a grave in one corner of the cabin, in it, wrapped as he lay in his blanket, she placed the dead body of her husband; by his side, she placed his head-gear, his hunting knife and rifle, and covered them over.

Now to resume our narrative. Next, north of us, a short distance lived "Queen Sukey", one of the wives of Tuchabatchee-Micco (Little King), one of the Nitchee Chiefs.

On the East, nearest us, lived Talliwassa and his mother, Mahaga.

These were all our nearest neighbors; good, kind-hearted people were they, and doubtless their souls rest in peace.

That first day of January, was a cold day, but the post office had to be visited and as everybody was busy, it fell to my lot to go.

Pole Cat Spring, three miles distance was the post office—the only one then in the county. Thither, mounted on a pony, I went: my return—well, that furnished a scene for a painter, a scene not often witnessed, and one, by the principal actor

never to be forgotten. Imagine if you can, a boy in a strange country, mounted on a foolish horse, and meeting a party of drunken, yelling Indians, jabbering, in unknown tongue and flourishing long knives. To add to my trouble, the horse stopped short and refused to approach them: so I was compelled to dismount, and just as I did, the Indians rushed toward me with furious yells and demonstrations: they passed on without molesting me.

There may have been a great deal of fun in this affair; if there was, I DIDN'T SEE IT. I do know that I have been in some rather disagreeable places, but haven't been good scared since that day. So ended my first day in Macon county."

(From THE MACON MAIL, Vol. VI., No. 3, page 2, Col. 2-3, Tuskegee, Alabama, Wednesday, March 30, 1881.)

Number XIII.

THE FIRST MILL — YAR-JEE — SQUATTER SETTLEMENTS — LAND SHARKS — THE FIRST CHURCH AND THE FIRST MEETING

The first grist mill in the county was located on a little creek which crosses the Western Railroad between Cowles Stations and Ft. Decatur. It was both a grist and saw mill; the earliest account of it dates back to 1825 or '26, when it was the property of Har-jee, a son of the Big Warrior, and brother of Tusteneha, or, as he was commonly called, Tuskenah.

Some relics of the old mill were to be seen as late as 1835.

Yar-Jee was one of the very few Indians, who discarded the dress and habits of his race, and adopted those of the whites. He had a farm, owned a few slaves, and was a well-to-do business man.

Not many settlements up to 1835 were permanent, but principally, squatter settlements. Any man with or without a fami-

ly located anywhere in the woods according to his fancy, and claimed by occupation.

The title was in the Indians who were, without records or surveys; and there was no "breaking of the close" unless by an invasion of their little corn patches about the villages or wig-wams.

Thus the land, to use an apt expression, being, "left out doors," there was no little land stealing. An unprincipled man finding an Indian willing to barter away his little cabin and patch, would buy it and get him to sign an instrument conveying away a half-league square.

The general government made an effort to check this style of proceeding first by surveys and then by sending a commissioner of sales to identify the parties selling as the owners of the lands sold; this identity was to be proven by the oath of the party and two witnesses.

There are old papers of record now in the Probate office, bearing the signature of Gen. Jackson and other commissioners to these sales.

The "land sharks," as these land speculators were called, soon devised a plan to evade the rigor of the law.

Distinctive names among the Indians were few; so that many were called by names which, to the ears, and by the pronunciation of the whites, were the same.

So it was no difficult matter to find an Indian of the required name; the signing of the Deed before the commissioner was, to the Indian himself, a mere matter of form, for which a red blanket, rifle or pony was ample compensation.

"Sometime in the month of February", an old settler writes us, "two stalwart, weather-beaten men rode up to the cabin of Major James Howard, and introduced themselves as Methodist Missionaries sent by the Alabama Conference to organize

church societies in the counties of Macon, Russell and Chambers.

"The name of the elder of the two Missionaries was Boswell, a grandson of whom now resides near Marvyn, in Russell county; the younger was, I think named Hopkins.

"They were hospitably invited in and taken care of as well as the scanty accommodations of a new country permitted. 'Twas Thursday night, and a cold night it was.

"Now," said Rev. Mr. Boswell, so soon as an opportunity was offered, "we desire to have a two days' meeting here, Saturday and Sunday."

"We have no house", responded Major Howard.

"Can't we build one tomorrow?" asked the resolute minister.

Major Howard was a man quick and decisive; he at once dispatched word to his neighbors to meet at an appointed place the next morning with all their forces.

Early in the morning at the designated place were collected over fifty whites and blacks. Among the number were Capt. James Abercrombie, Col. Howard, Major Howard, Major Dent, Dan'l Gortman, Amos Green and others.

With strong arms and willing hearts the work went on, and Saturday morning, the church was ready for services.

A good congregation assembled, to hear the junior missionary. Sunday a still larger crowd attended preaching by Rev. Mr. Boswell. A church society and a Sunday School were organized. As well as I can remember, the members of the Society, Col. J. H. Howard, wife and daughter, Mrs. James Abercrombie, Major James, wife and R. H. Howard, Amanda L. Stafford, N. A. Bascom, Mrs. James Dent, Mrs. Gortman,

Stephen Day, E. Jennings and wife. This was the first organized church in the county.

The building was of logs, and was located in front and about forty or fifty yards from the spot on which the W. J. Howard house, at Cross Keys now stands; there was no road then where the present road now runs.

(From THE MACON MAIL, Vol. VI, No. 4, page 2, Col. 2. Tuskegee, Alabama; Wednesday, April 6, 1881.)

Number XIV.

SETTLERS — CROSS KEYES — THE FIRST CRIMINAL INDICTMENT AND THE FIRST CIRCUIT COURT — EMBRYO CITIES — COMMISSIONERS — COUNTY SITE — POST OFFICE — JAIL — — .

During 1834, the influx of the settlers was very great. Col. J. H. Howard settled near Pole Cat Springs, not long afterwards he purchased the land on both sides of the road from the Jesse Thompson old place, to Mrs. Roberts, and settled what is known as the Lloyd place. — This he called Cross Keyes, after Cross Keys, Union District, S. C., the place of his birth.

About this time Mr. W. R. Magruder settled somewhere about the Clyatt place; he is described by an old settler as being "quite young, a rich handsome little fellow, fond of hunting and fishing and good company and liked by everybody."

Major James Howard settled January 1834 near Simmons' Grocery; he afterwards moved to the Howard place west of Tuskegee, where he died in 1856. Our much respected fellow citizen, B. F. Howard, Esq., is, we believe, his only surviving son.

Mention was made in a former sketch of the killing of the old Indian "Billy John," by Davy-Harjo and others. The slayers were afterwards indicted for murder by the first Grand Jury being organized in the county; though there was never any con-

viction; the moral effect being in the indictment.

Judge Wm. D. Pickett, of Montgomery, was the first Circuit Judge who ever held court in the county.

This court was held in a pine pole cabin, located about where the old building used as a work shop by Mr. Dave Griffis now stands.

Not many of our citizens ever dreamed that two rival cities once existed within twelve miles of Tuskegee but such is the fact.

In the latter part of 1834, two rival towns were located and laid out. — Tuckabatchee, located on the South side of Euphaupee, about one-half mile from its mouth; Taliasee was about three miles above on the East banks of the Tallapoosa River.

Streets were laid off, lots marked out and the race was fairly begun between them. Each claimed to be at the head of steamboat navigation, on the Tallapoosa.

Lots at both places found rapid sale, at prices of from fifty to one thousand dollars, according to eligibility. The credit system then being universal but little money changed hands. The sales generally were in installments of from one to five years.

Hotels, warehouses and storehouses went up rapidly. Each town was sanguine of becoming sooner or later the metropolis of Eastern Alabama and Western Georgia. One or two little boats by dint of pole and hawser succeeded in reaching Tuckabatchee, and finally higher water favoring, one pushed up to Tallassee, UNDER STEAM.

This was the EXPERIMENTUM CRUCIS of supremacy; and Tallassee was proclaimed the head of navigation — and is to-day.

Tuckabatchee refused to be comforted; her greatness had departed, her stores, warehouses and work shops deserted, her hotels and dwellings were tenantless, and desolation reigned in her streets.

Tallassee waxed strong and great, — in anticipation.

The site was good, there was abundant room for a large city there — and is yet.

And it doubtless would have grown to be a flourishing and populous city; but for the difficulty of navigating the river in ordinary seasons; but the peculiarity of the river was that the sand-beds were too near the surface of the water; these with such adventitious obstructions as logs and fallen tree tops, impeded and finally crushed out steamboat navigation and Tallassee died of commercial asphyxia.

Again some indiscreet persons about this time conceived the idea of building the Montgomery & West Point Railroad, and thenceforth Tallassee became a suburb of Cowle's Station.

Not a building now stands to mark the spot of either of these two ancient cities.

The Tallassee of that date is not the flourishing Tallassee which now sits beside the waters, at the beautiful falls.

By an Act approved January 12th, 1833, Thos. S. Woodward, Isaac Ray and John Thompson were appointed Commissioners to locate the seat of justice of Macon county.

Section 8 of the Act is as follows: "*And be it further enacted, That the Commissioners of the Counties aforesaid shall locate the seat of justice of said counties, respectively at or near the centre of said counties, if practicable, if not, at the most eligible point, not exceeding six miles from the centre of said counties.*"

This act further provided for an election to be held on the first Monday in March of the same year for Clerks of the Circuit and County Courts, for a Sheriff, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, and four Commissioners of roads and revenue.

By another Act of the same date the house of Thos. S. Woodward was declared an election precinct; the first ever established in the county.

The post office was first kept by Captain Wm. Walker, in his store-house, on the spot lately known as DeBardeleben's corner and now occupied by Capt. L. E. Phillips.

Capt. James Dent built a hotel where Mrs. Wade's hotel now is; a Mr. Youngblood built another at Mrs. Kelton's corner.

The first jail stood on the lot now occupied by W. C. Brewer, Esq. It was a 20 foot square building, two stories high, of hewn logs 12 x 13 inches; double walls three feet apart, filled between with upright piling. It was built by Col. J. H. & Major James Howard, and when completed, was the most conspicuous building in the town.

(From THE MACON MAIL, Vol. VI, No. 5, page 2, Col. 2-3. Tuskegee, Ala. Wednesday, April 13, 1881.)

Number XVII

COUNTY OFFICERS — OTHER EARLY SETTLERS AND SETTLEMENTS — TUSKEGEE COMING TO THE FRONT, ETC.

In 1834, James Larkin represented in the General Assembly, the Senatorial District to which Macon belonged; and was succeeded in 1836 by John W. Devereux. During the same period Joseph P. Clough was the representative in the Lower House, and, as heretofore stated, Judge of the County Court.

A. M. Haden was the first Clerk of Circuit Court, and was succeeded in 1835 by Sampson Lanier.

The first entry on the Execution Docket stands: Alexander McDade vs. Vicey McGirth, Judgement April 4th, 1834.

Edward Augustus McBryde was acting as Register in Chancery. Willdredge C. Thompson, Sheriff.

Mr. Moses Campbell, father of Mr. G. W. Campbell, was, according to the best information accessible, the first Tax Collector.

In the Winter of 1834, Mr. T. J. Bryan, father of Capt. Chas. J. Bryan, now of Tuskegee, settled at the forks of Persimmon, the place now owned by Capt. Bryan. Mr. Bryan was a resident of Georgia, and a graduate of the Georgia University; an educational distinction rare at that day.

A man of fine physique, prepossessing address and wealth, political distinction was a question of time only; but he died in the bloom of manhood a few years after his settlement in the county.

Mr. Bryan is thus particularized because around his settlement as a nucleus grew one of the most flourishing neighborhoods of this county. Capt. C. G. Rush settled the Sullen's place, adjoining Mr. Bryan's. Mr. John Pinckard the Peterson place and Wm. Pinckard the Pinckard place.

The Chappells, Abram and John Alfred Hardy, Jacob Huffman and David Segrest settled not far off, the whole constituting a community of which any country, new or old, might have been proud.

Sometime during '34 Henderson and Dukes, sons-in-law of Capt. Wm. Walker, settled the Butts' and the Jesse Wood's places.

Up to 1835 the vast forests South of Calebee and North of Euphaupee had scarcely been broken, game abounded in the woods and fish in the streams.

About this period Tuskegee began to be a place of no small importance. The commercial, political and educational center of a large scope of territory, boasting two stores, two hotels, a school, post office, a blacksmith shop, and one or more lawyers, who had their offices in their hats.

But what gave the place the greatest air of enterprise and importance, was the daily line of stage coaches passing, three each way during the twenty-four hours and bringing the mails daily; and in their regard it has been peculiarly fortunate, having had a daily mail service from the first day of its settlement to the present. To those who are disposed to philosophise on this subject, we will leave the consideration of how far this privilege has tended to the development of educational interests and the public spirit and intelligence which have so often given the value to her sons in political and civil preferment.

An old man named Law had a blacksmith shop on the lot now owned by Mr. James Adams; the sound of the hammer and bellows never ceased during day light, and coming and going in constant procession were negroes bringing and carrying implements of steel and iron to be repaired, or having been repaired; and here, as in most small country towns, was a perfect intelligence office of the domestic affairs of the people.

The stores were crowded day after day with Indians and whites buying or bartering for such simple articles as necessity suggested. Immigrants were pouring in with a ceaseless tide. Stage coaches filled with travelers, and among them, the "Land Sharks" ready to swallow up the home of the red men, or the white, as opportunity might offer.

Hotels were crowded to overflowing, and fortunate the guest who could, of a cold night, get the half of a hard mattress, with a share in a 5 x 6 blanket.

Mr. Stafford started a little store in a log cabin about where Mrs. T. G. Wood's store now is, and others were coming.

Houses were going up as if by magic, fields were being cleared, and crops planted.

Thrift, industry, enterprise and prosperity were apparent everywhere. In the language of one of that day; "Harmony and good-feelings prevailed; doors were opened wide to hospitality and friendship; all met on the plain of equality; every honest man and woman was recognized to be the peer of any other man or woman. Petty jealousies, bickering, and cordial were not known, but each neighbor met each with a candid greeting."

Without fear and without guile, lads and lassies laughed and sang together; or, in freedom roamed over hill and valley gathering flowers or plucking berries, well pleased with the fragrance of the one or taste of the other. Such was the state of Tuskegee this day (May 4th) forty-five years ago, when suddenly the scene changed.

(From THE MACON MAIL, Vol. VI, No. 8, page 2, Col. 1, Tuskegee, Alabama. Wednesday, May 4, 1881.)

A HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Old Times.

(The communication on "The Old Times," by "C", must supply the absence of the Historical Sketches for this issue. As throwing light upon the feelings of the Indians and the probable cause of the out-break, it is very germane to the subject of the Sketches.)

Editor Mail:

Dear Sir: — At your suggestion, I write again concerning the Indian times. The Indians in the neighborhood of Uchee, near where I lived then, were quiet and peaceable enough during 1833; and there being no white boys living near with whom I could associate, no churches or Sunday schools I spent many of my Sundays in the Indian Towns. The day was generally passed in ball-playing, eating potatoes or ground-peas, or drinking "sofky", and sometimes bad whiskey sweetened with molasses. — "Sofky" was a favorite drink among them, and was

made in the following manner: They would beat the kernels of the walnut or hickory-nut into a kind of paste, then putting it into some good-sized vessel would pour in a quantity of milk or water with a sufficiency of good whiskey and sugar.

It was taken with a wooden spoon or muscle shell, pretty much like taking soup. It was good enough, and as a stimulant against the effect of cold or fatigue, was without an equal.

The more the Indians associated with the white people, the worse they seemed to get; but still were peaceable enough till the whites began to steal their land, or swindle them out of it.

This was done in many ways, and in many instances.

Finally the evil became so great, and men so bold and unscrupulous about it, the Indians became discontented.

They had learned to love whiskey, and now began to buy it by the barrel and have "big drunks", ending in broils and fights and sometimes blood was shed.

I remember one instance which occurred at an Uchee village, called by the whites, Timbo-town. An Indian in a drunken fury knocked his wife in the head with an axe, killing her instantly.

He fled to the woods at once. Some days afterwards, he was discovered, and Cowettinnee, the fastest runner in the town, was put after him, and caught him after a race of three and a half or four miles. He was then taken by the Indians and laid down with his head on a log, and killed with the same axe, being struck as near as they could guess just as he struck the woman.

I never visited that town afterwards.

So things went from bad to worse till, during the latter part of 1834, several travelers were killed on the old Federal road,

between Columbus and old Sand Fort.

During 1835 it became dangerous to travel the old Federal between Uchee and Columbus.

Sometimes in the early part of that year, or the last of 1834, two men, James Comer and William Fanning, were coming from Columbus, and when they got to where the "14 mile post" now stands, they were fired on by two Uchees concealed about 15 or 20 yards from the road. *The bullet aimed at Comer struck a persimmon bush and glanced, missing him. *Fanning fell from his horse dead.

He stopped his horse, and seeing the Indians, spoke to them; they did not reply, but began rapidly reloading their rifles. Comer put spurs to his horse and escaped. At about 100 yards distance they fired again at him, wounding his horse.

Comer afterwards identified the Indians, and one was captured, but managed to escape.

In the Winter of '35-6 the Indians held frequent councils, and it was evident that something important was on hand.

The whites would send men to watch these councils, but the Indians were cunning, and nothing was learned of their intentions. The men sent generally returned saying, "No danger, no danger".

It was observed in the Spring of '36 that the Indians were more disposed then ever before to work out the corn for the settlers and they didn't seem to care for wages. Now it is evident that their purpose was two-fold; first to allay any uneasiness on the part of the whites, to take them off their guard, and then after driving them out, to keep the fine fields of corn for their own use.

However, early in the Spring the people became suddenly alarmed; the neighbors were collected at Col. Nimrod Long's.

It happened to be on Sunday. Negroes and whites went vigorously to work, and during the day and night we constructed a picket-fort of split logs.

It was located on a hill about 150 yards North-east of where the Baptist church at Uchee (Russell County) now stands.

The Indians called it derisively the "Wild-Cow-Pen".

Families were kept together there, and the men were ready for any emergency, and under direction of Col. Nimrod Long, our commander, scouts were sent out to watch the Indians and report.

Well, this is a long letter, so no more at present.

Yours, C.

(From THE MACON MAIL, Vol. VI, No. 9, page 2, Col. 1; Tuskegee, Alabama, Wednesday, May 11, 1881.)

JAMES M. TORBERT'S JOURNAL FOR 1856*

1856

JANUARY

- Tuesday 1 Cloudy & Cold Sent to Mill Cutting rail timber and lapping up tops. getting boards, Bustian went to get Some Money, paid me 78 dollars on his notes, I paid Foote My Doctors Bill to day \$ 28 dollars. I went down to Johnathan Thomas' to day with Wm Graves to try and Settle with Graves did not do anything while I Staid
Alls Well
- Wednesday 2 Rain It has rained all day, I wen't to L L T's with Mother this Morning, Mollie is quite Sick though I hope She will be well in a few day's It has rain almost any quantity. I Come home by the plantation alls afloat in water, Getting logs to build Pates house
Alls Well
- Thursday 3 Cloudy and cold Sun Shone out in the evening a little, drove hogs at fathers Bought Some hogs for Johnathan Thomas Wm Graves & Johnathan Settled to day I rode down to Thomas in the evening Negroes at the plantation getting house logs. Alls Well
- Friday 4 Clear and Cold, Went to the plantation Grub-

*Filed in the Department of Archives and History is a copy of Mr. Torbert's "Diary" which he kept as a "Day Book" from the itme he moved to the eastern part of Macon County, adjacent to the Russell County line in 1848, to a date in 1872. An analysis of this family record together with his 1848 entries was presented as a paper by me at the first annual meeting of the Alabama Historical Association, in Montgomery, April 17, 1948. These 1856 entries are used here to give a picture of that section of Macon County one hundred years ago. The Torbert farm was three or four miles west of the Russell County line and not far from Fort Bainbridge, on the Federal Road of 1811. Peter A. Brannon.

- bing & Splitting rails, Nothing New
Alls well
- Saturday 5 Clear and cold, A few met to consider about incorporating Society Hill didn't do any thing good many drunk, Splitting rails & Knocking Cotton Stalks
- Alls Well but Sharp dog I believe he will die with the distember
- Sunday 6 Clear and verry Cold. Brown preached at the Hill¹ I did not go, Poor Sharp dog I do believe he will die, I have done every thing for him I ever heard of but he Continus to get worse.
Nothing Strange Alls Well
- Monday 7 Clear & Cloudy I Staid at the plantation all day Splitting rails and Knocking down Cotton Stalks, Bustin left at one oclock afoot and I did not know where he went untill I Come home, He come up the Hill to try to get Money to Save his land he is a fool certain
Alls well. Sharp is Still alive
- Tuesday 8 Cloudy and Cold, I Staid at home untill dinner I road down to the plantation and to L.L.T.'s in the evening. Finished Splitting rails. Knocking Cotton Stalks Phil Walker Suped with us

¹ "The Hill" referred to in Mr. Torberts' notes here and always, refers to the village of Society Hill, a settlement on what was for many years known as the Wire Road and was one of the main highways entering Tuskegee from Columbus, Ga. The village was probably named by some of Mr. Torbert's family. Most of its early settlers had come from northeast Georgia. The Wire Road was distinguished from the Federal Road after the late '1840's by the fact that it was along this route that the telegraph wire ran west from Milledgeville through Columbus, on to Montgomery, Selma and the southwest. The lower, Federal Road was the original Indian path from Milledgeville to the Tombigee country.

he left Some accounts for me to Collect
All well Sharp is Still alive

Wednesday 9 Cloudy and verry Cold I Staid at home all day
Cutting up tops in the newground Knocking
down Cotton Stalks Sharp is not dead yet
Alls well

Thursday 10 Clear and verry Cold, I went to the plantation
Killed the last of My hogs and eight weighed
926 pounds Cleaning up Small piece of New-
ground by Stubble field Bill Gilmore Come to
See if I would not turn of Bustin and employ
him I think I had better do it; I do not believe
Bustin has got good Since.

Friday 11 Sleeted and rained all day, Isicles from one to
two feet long trees breaking verry bad. I rode
down to Johnathan Thomas to assist him in
hireing Some negroes hired one Little Aaron to
Buck Myhand for 160 dollars, My dog Sharp
died to day. I regret to loose as good a dog as
he promise to be, Doing nothing at the planta-
tion unless they are Makeing Collars, and Sitting
by the fire Their has not been Such a Sleet Since
I have been grown, and tomorrow I will be 34
years old Alls well

Saturday 12 Cloudy and rain all day and the ice Melting I
staid about home all day Hired Henry Crowell
one of Sarah's negroes for 115 Dollars, took Buck
Myhands note for the one he hired for \$160,
I do not Know what they are doing at the
plantation

Lee Sent for the Doctor this evening Mollie's
breast has a rising on it
All well This is My birthday

- Sunday 13 Cloudy and Cold I staid at home all day except late in the evening. I was reading a (Novel Second love or the worlds opinion, Mother dined with us. Father is gone to L. L. T. Alls well
- Monday 14 Cloudy and verry Cold, I went to the plantation rolling logs in the newground and burning brush My waggon Start to Columbus with the two last bales tomorrow Jim Ligon Paid Me the \$5 he borrowe Alls well Nothing new
- Tuesday 15 Clear and verry Cold, Willis Started to day with My last two bales Cotton, I went to Columbus,² roads worse than I ever Saw them, All hands at work in the Newground, roling logs and burning brush Alls well
- Wednesday 16 Cloudy and verry Cold. I Staid with J D Stewart at his house last night, every thing is frozed up I Sold My last two bales Cotton to day, one bale I got 8 1/4 and 8c the two bales brought me \$119.09 I bought My groceries to day & My osnaburgs for negro cloths, All hands Still working in the newground Alls well
- Thursday 17 Cloudy and extremely Cold it did not thaw all, day I Come from Columbus to day and Cold ride I had, Nothing Strange Since I left Still at work in the newground Alls well

² This reference to Columbus indicates that he paid a visit to that market. In some cases Mr. Torbert traded in Montgomery but generally speaking he carries his cotton to Columbus, Ga.

- Friday 18 Clear and Cold Father and Myself went birding we Caught 35 before ten O'clock let 6 get loose I went Down to the plantation after dinner Working in the newground Green haling rails and all the others burning brush & logs and Cleaning up Alls well
- Saturday 19 Cloudy and Cold all day. I Staid at home all day, Bill Jones paid Me what he owed me, I paid Campbell's order to G D Richardson for plastering, I Received a letter from Wm Hubbard, old Man harwill Moved to the Hill White Moved his things over in the piney woods alls Will
- Sunday 20 Cloudy and verry Cold I Staid at home all day took two or three naps, Nothing New, Jim Morrison Come up for a gallon of whiskey I let him have it as he was going to Move and Could get none no where else O how Cold.
Alls well
- Monday 21 Cloudy and Cold I went to the plantation Willis Pate & Gus haling logs ballence at work, in the Newground burning brush & logs I don't think I ever Saw brush burn as bad all the Wood is frozen the ice don't thaw, this is the Coldest Spell of weather I ever recollect Seeing in My life, Their has been over five weeks it has frozed every day, Father and Myself went bird hunting after dinner Caught 24 Alls well
- Tuesday 22 Clear and verry Cold, to day is the Coldest day we have had this winter, I rode down to the plantation all hands burning brush, tis the first frozen brush I ever had to burn and the worst burning I ever had I went bird hunting after dinner I only Caught five, I had no one to help me drive I have Cought in all this winter 110 birds Oh how verry cold, Alls well

Wednesday 23 Clear and verry Cold, This Certainly is one of the Coldest Spells and the longest I ever experienced, their has not been a day Since Christmas it has not freezed, I Staid about home all the Morning J A R & Myself went birding in the evening Caught 14 partridges in the nett All hands work in the newground burning brush & logs.

Thursday 24 Clear, & Cold, every thing frozed, ice every where I went over to the Morrison place in the Morning to help anthony to Start to laying fence worm, father is gone to Montgomery, and I expect to Newnan to See his ——— he did not Say he *was* going there but Said he was going to Montgomery but he generally goes there and back in three days, and this time he Started last Tuesday and is not to get back untill Sunday, I went to the plantation after dinner, Still burning brush & logs & halling rails — Staked off the fence row Alls Well

Friday 25 Cloudy and Cool The weather has Moderated a little the ice has been melting to day I walked over to the Negro Camp in the Morning offered Henderson & Hackle \$900 for a negro boy, did not trade, went to the newground after dinner all hands at work in the Newground all Cleaned up except burning Some logs I do think they get along Slower in the newground than I ever had hands in My life^a Bustin is not worth hell room I will let him Stay untill plough time and if he does not improve I dismiss him. Alls well

^a Mr. Torbert appears to have had difficulty with some of his overseers who perhaps were negligent in their plantation duties. Their conduct is the cause of rather frequent comment.

- Saturday 26
Charlie
8 days
to School
- Rainy and windy, too Cold to work Sent to Mill.
Green hall up Some Ashes Made Some new fence
and repaired the old fince between old Ligon
& Myself didn't work any after dinner too wet &
Cold. Halled up Some lightwood at the Hill
Charlie has been to School 8 days this year,
Missed none.
Could not get any plank from D W G
- Sunday 27
- Cloudy and Cold Staid at home all day. Slept
and read law. Father returned from Montgom-
ery, Incorporation bill pass the Senate not passed
the House Oh the Confusion; nothing Strange
Bet has been expecting to tumble down for the
last three days Nothing done yet
Alls well
- Monday 28
- Cloudy and freezing all day I went to the planta-
tion finished My Newground fence, Cleaning up
Newground next to My Stubble ground. Paid
old Man Harwell. Got Bill White to Make me a
bridle bit Buck Myhand gone to Montgomery
to attend to the Incorporation bill, drunk when
he left So Says the boys
Alls well
- Tuesday 29
- Cloudy & Cold Went to the plantation burning
logs and chunks, and Splitting rails to repair
Stubble ground fence. on the line between me
and Lee. Come home to dinner Made a draggon
bit bridle for Ned
Will it never get warm I never Since I have
beenl iving Seen Such a hard winter
Alls well
- Wednsdy 30
- Clear and Frozen School house like to have got
burnt up, Jones Father Gardner & Myself went
down to Tates place to lay of Mrs. Tates, dower
Caught 31 partridges after dinner. Alls well

Thursday 31 Clear and Cold, Went to the plantation Staid all day. Caught 9 birds Carired them to Mollie dined there, Mollie's brest Still verry painfull, Rolling & burning logs and cleaning up in old ground, Bets is grunting

Remarks on January

I have cleaned up my newground and Made the fence, I have cleaned up all My plantation North of the house excep the Creek field.

It has been So Cold the ground has been So hard frozen I Could not plough, I dont think their has been a furrow run in the neighborhood Their has not been a day Since Christmas but what the ground has been frozen at least half of the day I never Saw as cold a Spell in my life to last So long.

Bustin the overseer is not worth Shucks I think I will Ship him Soon

FEBRUARY

Friday 1 Clear and More lpeasant I feel pretty bad this morning, I Sit up all night last night Bet had a fine boy, Clem this morning quater after four. Doctor Foote waited on her. Em & Mother was here, Foote paid me the ballence of the Bustin Money \$64.74

Roling logs and Cleaning up old ground, Alls doing well

Saturday 2 Cloudy and More pleasant, Cutting rolling & burning logs, Bet and the boy is doing finely No news from the incorporation bill I recon tis all done with.

Alls well

Sunday 3 Cloudy windy and Cold, Staid at home all day Father returned from Union Springs in the evening Mother went down to Em's or Sarahs after

- dinner No News Bet is doing verry well the baby is well.
- Monday 4 Clear Oh how Cold This is decidedly the Coldest da ywe have had this winter branches frozen entirely over Pushing up Chunks roling logs and Cutting Cotton Stalks,
Alls well
- Tuesday 5 Clear and Cold. Went to the plantation raised Pate's Cabin Some cleaning up and cutting Stalks, Alls well John Walker here
- Wedndy 6 Cloudy and Cold. Covered Cabin and put up the body of the Chimney burning Stalks, Women done nothing or Scarcely nothing, I will whip them as Sure as I get to the plantation John Walker here Alls well
- Thursday 7 Cloudy and Sprinkling rain nearly all day — rained nearly all night last night, every thing verry wet, Went to See the drove Mules at Browns, too Small did not Suit me.
Cut up logs in Creek field, too wet to roll them, raked up Manure under gin house and the lot. Made the fence between the woods pasture and last year's Newground I have been unwell Several days but worse to day took blue pill
- Friday 8 Cloudy and rainy all day I Staid at home I am not well, building Chimney to Pates house & Jobing Making Newground gate post &c
- Saturday 9 Clear and Cold Some picking up Corn Stalks fenced in the yard halled rails fixed up ploughs Trying to get Ready to Commence Sowing Oats Monday Alls well
- Sunday 10 Clear and more pleasant, I Staid at home all day, Baby not well Nothing New

- Monday 11 Rained and the wind blew untill 9 oclock I went to the plantation Raked up yard. Made hand Sticks hoe helves &c ploughed in oats after dinner too wet Cannot plough any More untill it dries
I plouhged half day the first I have ploughed this year Alls well
- Tuesday 12 Clear & Cool Went to Tuskegee to get Copy of first Deed of Trust for Sarah C Thomas, bought 4 Curry Combs Rode hoise back Chery paid the Walker & Taner Act.
- Wednesday 13 Clear and windy, I went to the plantation Sowing oats, ground too wet to plough but I Must plough Some Pulling up Cotton Stalks in the Creek field Mr and Mrs Walker Come up to day.
- Thursday 14 Clear and pleasant I Staid at home all day, Mr and Mrs Walker here both unwell. We went to the negro Camp in the evening Billy March is the gentleman that has negroes for Sale.
Mr Walker & Myself Settled up to this date except the ballence on a note I hold Brown bought two negro girls from the trader, Pulling up Cotton Stalks and Sowing oats at the plantation Alls well
- Friday 15 Clear. Thunder in the evening, I went to the plantation Some burning logs & pulling up Cotton Stalks in the creek field Finish Sowing oats (35 acres) Commenced bedding up Stubble ground Mr & Mrs Walker left for home this Morning.
Bet and the baby is doing first rate. Alls well
- Saturday 16 Clear and windy— Went down to Jonathan Thomas in the morning, Sarah wanted to See

me on business. Jonathan gone to the Springs.
I hope he will never Come back, drunken devil
Jackson Paid me today Ploughing and Cleaning
up All well the baby have the hives

Sunday 17 Cold and windy Phony and Ginny Staid with us
last night Thomas preached to day I think he is
a pretty fair preacher J White Phony & Ginny
dined with us to day Alls well

Monday 18 Clear and Cool I Made me a wooden Pipe and
it burnt up in Smoking three times I went down
to Tates but No Sale he did not get there untill
three oclock, Sale put off Nat Gentry & Jno.
Culpepper had a Small fight
Did not go to the plantation, Ploughing & Clean-
ing up Alls well

Tuesday 19 Cloudy and Cool Went to the plantation
Ploughing Stubbleground burning logs in Stub-
ble field next to Brown's Halling out Cotton
Seed Commenced yesterday Calf died this Morn-
ing brought up a load of plough Stock timber
& Jake to help me Stock Some ploughs Tomor-
row, Ground up My tools ready for work tomor-
row Alls Well.

Wednesday 20 Cloudy and rain Sprinkled and drizled all day.
Jake & Myself Stocked one plough and Com-
menced an other My head ached So bad I had
to quit, I have been quite unwell for Several
day's We worked at old Man Harwell Shop
Ploughing and Cleaning up & Halling out Cotton
Seed Bet and the babie is doing verry well

Thursday 21 Cloudy & Rainy Willis gone to Mill I am Sick,
Went to the plantation in the evening piling
trash & Cotton Stalks in the Creek field too wet
to plough Father Starts public Shop gives me

10 dollars to Keep the books old man Harwell
Made me a wheel barrow, Charged \$2.50, Fin-
ished the plough Stock I Comced yesterday
White lost Wednesday & thursday from School
Alls well

Friday 22

Cloudy all day I went down to Sarah Thomas
today Sarah is in trouble about Johnathan he
has not come back. Negroes not doing much
Sewed on Some Back band hooks Willis Come
back from the Mill brought 6 Turning ploughs
for me 5 for Phony 3 for L L T and Some plank
for Myself & old Mat Harwell Nothing new
Alls well

Saturday 23

Cloudy & pleasant, Willis got back from Mill
late yesterday evening; Measured out allowance
this Morning, Went to the plantation after din-
ner ploughing bedding up last years newground.
Cleaned out fence Corners & Halling Manure
I am not well.

Sunday 24

Clear & Cool. I Staid at home all day Father &
Mother went down to Sarah's Jonathan not Come
back yet Sent blind George to See what he is
doing. I am Sick

Monday 25

Clear & Cool I went to Fathers plantation to
day to get Some plough Stock timber ploughing
Stubble ground breaking up with Scooters, burn-
ing Cotton Stalks logs in the Creek field George
Come back Say's Jonathan Thomas is at the
Springs doing nothing His family would be bet-
ter off if he was dead I am not Well

Tuesday 26

Cloudy and Sprinkled rain, Breaking up Stubble
ground. finished Cleaning up except a few
chunks and twenty acres corn Stalks to burn
Halling Manure 3 Elephants passed here today
I have been fixing to Start Sarah's ploughs

Wednesday 27 Clear & Pleasant this is the first day that looks like Spring Jake & Pate at the Hill preparing the garden for planting too wet to plough at the plantation, I expect they are Splitting rails for Bill Jones & Halling Manure I am quite Sick all day with the head ache I bought Some Spencers pills and took a dose had Foote to Cup me in both temples and the back of the neck.

Thursday 28 Clear and warm looks like planting I am working in the garden, Planted My Spanish Spring Wheat (Trigo Candéal) Tis Said It will ripen in 90 days after Sowing Planted Irish potatoes, radishes & Bet will finish tomorrow, I am not well of the headache but I am better than I was yesterday. I do not Know what they are doing at the plantation, I expect they ploughing in the new-ground, Halling Manure & Splitting rails for Bill Jones, O my head aches.

Friday 29 Clear and warm. Went to Tuskegee give bonds for Aaron Sarah's negro that was levied on, Father Sold Billy Will & Abe the three only bought \$1040 I have not had the head ache much to day Jake & Pate finished gardening, Bedded My potatoes and it was Much ado to get enough to bed all rotten within a week, I am affraid they are all rotten at the plantation, I do not Know what they are doing at the plantation

Charlie has been to School 19 day's in February— 12 days in January Making 31 days up to this time Charlie has lost no time White lost 2 days (The 20th & 21 Feb)

MARCH

Saturday 1 Rained nearly night last night and half the day today, every thing is in a float, Splitting rails

for Bill Jones. Jaks Splitting wood at the,
examined My potatoes at the plantation all rotten
I dont think their was a whole Sound potatoe
If I don't get potatoe Seed from Some one I will
be minus as potato Crop
Alls well

Sunday 2

Cloudy Cold &c It rained hailed & Snowed a
little today Greathouse preached two Semmons
at the Baptist Church to day one at eleven
oclock & one at night I did not here him, I don't
like the Stock I did not here him I Staid at home
all day
Alls well

Monday 3

Cloudy Election for Magistrate Childers was
elected & Cassaway for Magistrate, Anderson for
Bailiff I voted Single for Massingale I purchaced
a Mule to day from a Man by the name of
Russell paid \$150 Splitting rails for Bill Jones
I am not well

Tuesday 4

Cloudy I Bedded 10 bushels of potato's I
bought from father last night, Went down to
the plantation hiched up My young Mule I am
affraid her eyes is not good I dont think She
can See but little if any out of her right eye
& Russell is gone with the Money I hope if
the Mules eyes proves to be bad the Money
May never do him any good Halling Manure
Splitting rails for Bill Jones. Father borrowed
\$977
I am Sick

Wednesday 5

Cloudy I went to the plantation after dinner
Started My ploughs again ground wet Com-
menced bedding up ginhouse field for Corn
putting Manure in water furrow

Got 4044 rails Split for Bill Jones Green
finish Halling Manure Jake Splitting wood at
the Hill. The young Mule I bought plough's

finely but she is blind as a bat in her right eye
 I hope Russell May See the Mule on his death
 bed then his Conscience will tell him that he
 has done wrong, Tis with him and his God.
 I can live without the Money if he Can with it
 Alls well

Thursday 6 Cloudy Staid at home untill dinner Green
 Halling wood at the Hill. Jake Splitting,
 Went to the plantation Bedding up Corn land
 & Spreading Manure running eight ploughs
 My young Mule ploughs finely but I am
 affraid She will go blind Alls well

Friday 7 Cloudy & warm Made Gate for the newground
 at the plantation Stocked Scooter Stock in the
 evening, Bedding up Corn land & Spreading
 Manure Rain at night a light Sprinkle
 Alls well

Saturday 8 Clear and pleasant Bedding up Corn land and
 Commenced listing Cotton Cotton ground,
 Spreading Manure Splitting & haling wood at
 the Hill
 The ground is pretty wet to plough yet.
 Alls well

Sunday 9 Clear & Cool I Staid at home all day Sid Grigg
 Smallest Child died today Got a bile in My nose
 loaned Jonathan Thomas My buggy
 I have got the head ache

Monday 10 Cool & windy Listing up Cotton ground. Put
 Some logs & chunks together before the ploughs,
 Cleaning out ditches I am Sick

Tuesday 11 Cloudy Cold in the Morning, rained from dinner
 untill night without interruption I made plough
 Stock to plough at the Hill Ploughing Cleaning

out ditches untill it rained

I Received a writ today the first time I was ever Sued in My life Sued as one of the building Commitee, for the Academy,— Alls well

Wednesday 12 Rained nearly all day Split rails for Bill Jones finished him 5034 rails about 4 Oclock. Got Some post for Mule Shelter Too wet to plough
Alls well

Thursday 13 Rains It rain all night last night I went to the plantation It Still rained Halled up post got rafters Straitened and Cut them got Some boards Women Spun to Make twine, Finished Pates house
Alls well

Friday 14 Cloudy all day Not doing Much Pidling, Stoping pigs out field, Digging trough
Oh How wet
Made me tool box
Alls well

Saturday 15 Clear and warm. Men working on road women raking out ditches ground too wet to plough
Nothing Strange Alls well

Sunday 16 Cloudy all day. Spent the Morning at Fathers and got My dinner at fathers went down to Sarah's in the evening fathers Seed potatoes all rotted after he bedded them.
I have got the headache

Monday 17 Rain light Sprinkle half the day Willis gone to Auburn for a load of goods for Daniel, I went to the plantation finish My Mule Shelter between the barns, finished Cleaning out hill Side ditches. Shelled corn in the evening Will the ground ever get dry enough to plough? I have worked Completely out, I never was as Near out

of work in My life I Saw a peach bloom yesterday for the first. I have got the headache

Tuesday 18 Cloudy & warm I Staid at home all day Willis Come back from Auburn burning Chunks in the newground too wet to plough
I have got a bile in my nose

Wednesday 19 Clear & warm Ploughing breaking up & listing up Stubble Made ox trough Russell pays Me back \$50 on the blind Mule I bought from him
I am Sick the bile in my nose nearly Kill me

Thursday 20 Clear & pleasant Ploughing, Breaking up My ten acre Corn field Commenced planting Corn after dinner Cleaning out ditches
The bile in my nose is getting well

Friday 21 Clear and pleasant planting Corn & Mannureing Ginhouse field too wet to plant, planting field next to Lee's Listing on one furrow Green went to Mill after dinner Alls well

Saturday 22 Clear and windy, This looks like a March day, I Staid at home all day, Issued out allowance untill 20th of April Planting Corn & Manureing
I have got the headache

Sunday 23 Clear and Cold Frost & Ice I went to preaching Thomas preached Jonathan & Sarah Spent part of the evening with us
I have the headache

Monday 24 Clear and pleasant, Planting Corn finish field next to L L T's planting ginhouse field Cleaning out big ditch Jake & Myself Made Cart tounge,
Alls well

Tuesday 25 Cloudy in the Morning, light shower last night, heavy thunder Jake & Green getting post & laths

for butter been harbor Pate planted My roosting
ears patch Watermelon's squash & pea's. Planted
My last Patch of Irish Potatoes Alls Well

Wednesday 26 Clear & Cool went to the plantation in the
evening, Commenced to Bed Cotton ground.
Finish running round My Corn Jake & Pate Burn-
ing Chunks at the Hill Alls well

Thursday 27 Clear windy & Cool I went to the plantation
Bedding Stubble field next to Browns Halling
Straw at the Hill to Cover Irish Potatoes. . Miss
Reynolds died to day Dropsy of the brain
Alls well

Friday 28 Clear Cold frost & Ice Bedding Cotton ground
ditching, Pileing limbs & trash in wheat patch.
Alls well

Saturday 29 Cloudy and Cold I Staid at home and about the
Store all day; Bedding up Cotton ground,
Cleaned out field well & built frame for bush
arbor to feed under this Summer; verry Cold for
the Season Alls well

Sunday 30 Cloudy & Cold Sabbath School Commenced, I
did not go. Lee & Mollie here in the Morning,
Greathouse give a temperance lecture, Dined at
fathers Alls well

Monday 31 Cloudy & warm Went down to the plantation
Bedding Cotton ground hung newground gates,
Commenced grubbing I do believe all my Cows
will die with poverty? Lil Cow is down She
will die I Know I received a letter from Mrs.
McKee last Saturday Alls well

APRIL

- Tuesday 1** Clear and Cold Rebedding hog wallow field, My cow died last night I went down to the plantation, Staid untill nearly dinner, Made a Singletree in the evening Received a note from Plane a lawer in Columbus requesting me to pay for a monument I Spoke to him to Make I have not received the Stone and I do not intend to pay for it untill I receive it, He is a Scoundrel Emaline is boiling Slop for the Cows. Alls well
- Wednesday 2** Cloudy and warm Sprinkled rain in the evening Rebedding hog-wallow field, grubbing Jake & Myself Stocked Some ploughs, Alls well
- Thursday 3** Cloudy and warm, It rained in torrents last night every thing is in a float this Morning, too wet to plough, all hands at work in Newground deadening Pines and grubing Alls well
- Friday 4** Clear and pleasant, Ploughing in the newground, finished breaking it & Commenced bedding it Some grubbing, Father and Myself went rabbit hunting in the evening Killed one rabbit & one Patridge Alls well
- Saturday 5** Clear & pleasant I Staid at home all day, Painted two plough Stocks & My whel barrow. Ploughing in the Newground, bedding it up Grubbing, The ground is quite wet. Alls well
- Sunday 6** Clear. and pleasant, I went to Sabbath School 25 Schollars, Foote, Jim Maberry & Myself was all the grown persons present J A R & family Jonathan Thomas & family Lee Peacock Phil & George dined with us Emaline Sent for the doctor last night but falce report
Emaline is Complaining

- Monday 7 Cloudy and rained a little this Morning and
Some last night, My horse got out last night and
Cotton I had him to hunt this Morning, Commenced
planting Cotton one plough to open & one to
Cover, Bedding newground, Some grubbing, I
whiped Jake Mary & Pate to day about their
grubbing My horse is verry lame
Emaline grunting
- Tuesday 8 Clear and warm, I Staid at home all day, I was
to have gone to Tuskegee but my horse was too
lame from being pricked with a nail. Planting
Cotton Bedding up newground and grubbing
Alls well
- Wednesday 9 Clear and warm I went to Tuskegee drove J A
R's horse returned in the evening Planting Cot-
ton, Bedding newground (finished) grubbing
Alls well
- Thursday 10 Clear & warm I went to the plantation Rebed-
ding Stubble ground Planting Cotton have 35
acres planted tonight quit grubbing & gone to
replanting Corn where it is washed up and
ditching.
Corn is Comeing up, but the ground is
baked on it So I am affraid I will have a bad
Stand, Alls well
- Friday 11 Clear & warm I went to Tuskegee, Caught Me
on the juror for next Wednesday & Thursday for
crimnal Caces
Planting Cotton with one plough Bedding up
Cotton land Ditching &c Alls well
- Saturday 12 Clear & warm, I Staid at home nearly all day
went over to the Mill pond and Shot at Some
fish. Did not get any Sued old Fergerson on

the Academy SupScription, he ranted Consider-
able Made me mad, we got judgement
Planting Cotton & Bedding up I have got only
about 60 acres planted Alls well

Sunday 13

Clear & warm Sabbath School in the Morning,
I walked up to the Methodist Church Dows
Perry preached, dined at fathers, had large tur-
key Lee Sent them Went over to Maberrys in
the evening Bet & Myself to See their boy
All Well

Monday 14

Clear & warm I went to the plantation planta-
tion, Bedding up & planting cotton I have 75
acres planted the ground is getting hard Re-
planting Corn; bad Stand of corn; My Cows is
Still doing bad two More down
I have the headache, Emaline Complaining

Tuesday 15

Clear & warm I went to the plantation Com-
menced to bed the Creek field and ground is
getting hard planting with 4 ploughs Replanting
Corn Cotton Comeing up and lots of grass Com-
ing with the Cotton Lee give me a Turkey
Alls well

Wednesday 16

Clear & warm Went to Tuskegee, Summons as
juror on Crimnal Caces for to day & tomorrow
trial put off Planting Cotton & Bedding up
ground getting hard Cotton Comeing up & grass
too Alls well

Thursday 17

Clear & warm I Staid in Tuskegee last night,
Steam Mill burnt last night a Man got Killed 6
miles west of Tuskegee Shot axedently for a
Turkey, Smith Adkins I returned home in the
evening Bill Jones went and Come with us.
Planting Cotton & Bedding up replanting Corn

- bad Stand of Corn. Two More Cows Skined to day. Alls well
- Friday 18 Clear & warm, I went to the plantation Planting Cotton & Bedding up finished replanting Corn; Green gone to Mill Jake Come up this evening to plough My patches at the Hill, I will not get done planting Cotton before next Wednesday I have not planted My newground Alls well
- Saturday 19 Clear and Cool. Staid at home Jake bedding up My patches at the Hill, Bedding up & planting Cotton at the plantation, I Commenced me a Canoe to fish in the pond. Settled with Gassaway for the School house. leaves each one of the Commettee \$37,07 to pay after paying our Subscription This is Mill day Alls well
- Sunday 20 Clear Windy & Cold Went to Sabbath School J A R father & Myself all the grown persons there. Myself & family Spent the day at J.A.R.'s I am affraid it will frost tomorrow Morning Covered up Some of the things in the garden Alls well
- Monday 21 Frost Killed Some things none to hurt I Staid at home all day and finished My Canoe Jake ploughing My patches at the Hill Bedding up & planting Cotton Planting newground corn Covering with the hoe Alls well
- Tuesday 22 Frost & Ice. Did not do much damage too dry, I went to the plantation Bedding up & planting Cotton. I will finish planting Cotton tomorrow. planting Newground Corn ground is verry hard, Cotton will not Come up untill rains Alls well

- Wednesday 23 Clear & dry. I went to the plantation after dinner Finished planting Cotton & Newground Corn Alls well
- Thursday 24 Clear & dry Commenced ploughing & hoeing Cotton; four furrows ground verry hard, Alls well
- Friday 25 Clear & pleasant. Went down to Mr. Walkers with Bet & the children, Ploughing & hoeing Corn Charlie Miss this day from School the first he has missed this year.
Emaline & Spencer grunting
- Saturday 26 Clear and warm, I was at Uchee to day, old Man Walker⁴ & Hurt Settled their difficulty (law Suit) by arbitration Ploughing & hoeing Corn
Emaline Still Complaining
- Sunday 27 Cloudy & warm Returned from Mr. Walkers in the evening Father & J A R has Some Sick negroes
Emaline Sick
- Monday 28 Clear & dry. Went down to the plantation Emaline had a baby this Morning before day (girl) Ploughing & Hoeing Corn Alls well

⁴ The Walker family was settled on the Federal Road at the present almost deserted village of Uchee. The Hurts were located on an adjacent plantation. This latter family moved south in the early 1850's. The Mobile and Girard Railroad reached a point 35 miles out of Girard and the railroad named the point Hurtville. This stop on the railroad was Station No. 4, which in subsequent years became Hurtsboro. This family left Russell County and went to Atlanta and were prominent in the industrial development of that city. Mr. Walker, mentioned in this law suit was a kinsman of Mr. Torbert. Uchee village, an early settlement in the western part of Russell County, was at one time a small town of considerable importance. It was about four miles east of Fort Bainbridge, a military post of 1813 which figured in the travel journals of many who went that way.

Tuesday 29 Clear & dry Went to the plantation Ploughing & Hoeing Corn, Drove My Cows up to the Hill 39 with the young Calves, left 3 Cows 2 Calves & 4 oxens Alls well

Wednesday 30 Clear warm & dry Went to Columbus to day Ploughing & Hoeing Corn Alls well
I have planted all my Cotton, but it will not Come up untill it rains their has been no rain in 4 weeks 30th of this Month, I have nearly worked over My Corn I will finish in a day or So, Emaline had a baby 28th in the Morning My newground Corn will not Come up untill it rains.

MAY

Thursday 1 Cloudy & Misted a little, In Columbus bought My Summer Cloths. Father & Myself went in the buggy togather, Father Sold the last of his Cotton, L L T did not Sell. Father got $9\frac{1}{4}$ - $10\frac{1}{2}$ & 11 Cents Ploughing & hoeing Corn
Alls well

Friday 2 Clear & verry hot, Returned from Columbus Finished ploughing Corn & Commenced Baring Cotton, hoeing Corn. I have not got more than half a Stand of Cotton, it will be no better untill it rains Alls well

Saturday 3 Clear & hot, Went to the plantation, Baring Cotton. Finished hoeing Corn & Commenced Chopping Cotton, Whiped all the hoe hands. whiped Spencer the first time I ever whiped him
Alls well

Sunday 4 Cloudy— and a pretty good Shower at the Hill but little at the plantation, Greathouse preached
I am not well

Monday 5 Cloudy— Election for Probate & Circuit Judge, County Superintendant. Considerable fighting, nobody hurt this box has gone for the democrats Planted out My potatoe Slips at the Hill. Chopping Cotton & Baring

I am quite Sick all day I am affraid I am going to have the flux, My bowells pain me verry much Took blue pill at night

Tuesday 6 Cloudy, I am quite Sick I am affraid I am taken the flux from the Simptons I made Some Flux Cordial this morning I rode down to the plantation after dinner, Chopping Cotton, and a Slow business it is the Cotton is verry Small and not Much over half a Stand, and plenty of grass, I am affraid I Shall Make a poor Crop, the grass is Sure to get the Start of me. their is about 90 acres of My Cotton their is not a fourth of a Stand on the ground and will not be untill it rains, and the grass is already up and growing I do wish it would rain

Wednesday 7 Clear I Staid at home all day I am quite unwell, help Father Cut & Mark his Calfs Doctor Foote Speyed Some pigs poor hand Father bought blacksmith of Dickerson Paid twelve hundred dollars, is to pay the ballence as Soon as he tries the negro fully.

Chopping Cotton Sweeping Cotton after the hoes three furrows

I feel better

Thursday 8 Clear & Windy, Went to the Show last poor thing, poppets representing persons, Chopping Cotton, Sweeping after hoes, I went to the plantation Oh I wish it would rain I heard from the election Alexander beet Lanier nearly 200 votes

Alls well

- Friday 9 Clear & Cool, I Staid at home all day. I do not feel well, My bowells are out of fix
Sweeping & chopping Cotton at the plantation
- Saturday 10 Clear & Cool, and verry dry, I went over to the Morrison place to Spey Some pigs for father, rode over fathers piney woods Crop The trial between the building Commetee & old Fergerson Come off to day Fergerson & Foote Made a Speach apiece I Could not Swear against Mc he is a Scamp without a doubt, the jury did not Make a verdict Could not agree, I am Sick
- Sunday 11 Clear. Spent the day at L L T's we all rode in the Carriage. Alls well except Myself My bowells are Sill troubleing Me
- Monday 12 Clear & pleasant Oh how dry I went down to the plantation, Chopping & Sweeping Cotton, I have got half Stand Cotton, I will not come up until it rains
Mary has a touch of the flux I hope it will not be bad I give Chaney a bad whipping for Making Easter Steal Molasses for her
- Tuesday 13 Clear & warm Went to the plantation Sweeping & Chopping Cotton Mary has gone to work Oh how verry dry ground getting verry hard
Alls well
- Wednesday 14 Clear & dry I Staid at home all day tis So dry at the plantation the Cotton Can't Come up.
Oh I wish it would rain Alls well
- Thursday 15 Cloudy & light Shower at the Hill I kept My bed nearly all day I was quite Sick, Something like an attack of Cholera Morbus
- Friday 16 Cloudy light Sprinkle to day about enough to lay the dust, I am Ploughing Cotton two bar

furrows, and two Shovel furrows, where I am chopping there is no Cotton up at all, or not More than one tenth of a Stand My Newground Corn has not come up tis as dry as powder Sent Green to Mill Alls well

Saturday 17 Cloudy & tolerable pretty Shower I Staid at home all day Cleaned out My gunn Went bird hunting, did not kill any thing Billy King was drowned to day in Echols Mill pond, while in a washing took the Cramp & Sunk is the way it was Supposed he was drowned turned Cool after the rain in the evening Alls well

Sunday 18 Rain we have had a verry pretty Shower this evening, I assisted old Man Harwell in Making Wm Kings coffin, King was burried five oclock this evening quite Cool for the Season
Alls well

Monday 19 Rained It has rained Several pretty Showers to day, I wen't to the plantation in the Morning barring & Chopping Cotton, the ground not wet enough in the Morning though I Recon the evening Showers has Made out a good Season I repaired My old Turning plough Stock this evening, and helped Alfred Make old Man Harwell an augur brace
Alls well Clem has a bad Cold

Tuesday 20 Rain It rained a good Shower to day at the plantation, too wet to plough after dinner, the Bud worm has nearly ruined My Stand of Corn. Plough hands thinning Corn after dinner, hoe hands Chopping Cotton I bedded up Some potatoe ridges at the Hill Alls well

Wednesday 21 Clear & warm, I Staid at home all day, Set out Some potatoe Slips this Morning, Sallie Ingram

- Sallie** Commenced bourding with us to go to School
I Shall charge Seven or eight dollars pr Month,
Nothing new alls wel l
- Thursday 22** Clear & windy I Staid at home untill dinner;
Wen't to the plantation in the evening Chopping
Cotton in the Creek field Oh My— how the
young grass has Come up I'll finish Chopping in
two more days or nearly So, Ploughing Corn
with Scooters Clem has got verry bad cold.
Wrote letter to Mrs. McKie
- Friday 23** Clear and windy, I Staid at home all day Pate
ploughing My patches at the Hill, Set out a few
potato Slips in the evening Chopping Cotton &
ploughing Corn, I am ploughing the field next
to L L T's with two Scooters & two Shovel fur-
rows & leave the Middle I don't think I ever
Saw More young grass Come up in My life,
plenty Cotton Come up; the ground work de-
lightful Alls well
- Saturday 24** Clear & warm. I went to the plantation, Plough-
ing Corn & Chopping Cotton Eddie Sick
- Sunday 25** Clear & warm No preaching to day Thomas did
not come Mrs. Ingram & family was here in the
morning Fanny Johnson was with here. Did not
stay to dinner Eddie Sick
- Monday 26** Clear & warm; Went to the plantation Finish
Ploughing Corn 2nd time Commence Sweeping
Cotton Finished Chopping Cotton 1st time &
Commenced Chopping Newground Corn Oh My
God the grass Alls well
- Tuesday 27** Clear & warm I went to the plantation Sweeping
Cotton, & Chopping newground corn, Oh the
grass, I Must Stay Clost to the hands a while

and try to Keep the grass under if it Should rain
and a few days wet I would have a bad road to
travel with the grass Alls well

Wednesday 28 Clear & warm I went to the plantation Sweeping
Cotton & Chopping in the newground com-
menced baring My Hogwallow Cotton Cotton
dieing Oh My Conscience how the grass grows

Thursday 29 Clear I Staid at home all day trying to buy a
negro— but as yet I have not done So, negro
women at a thousand dollars is extremely high,
I think I will buy his waggon & perhaps a negro
but I hate to give a thousand dollars, but I don't
Know whether I can do better or not— Dave
Gassaway & Goodwin had two or three fights
to day Clemmie has a bad Cold & Cough

Friday 30 Clear & Pleasant I went to the Plantation in the
Morning Finished Chopping in the Newground.
Bared part of Creek field Sweeping after dinner,
Cotton dying in hog wallow, Oh the grass I
never in all my life had a crop in as bad a fix in
My life, Commenced hoeing Cotton Second time
I bought a negro girl Martha from E.M. Cobb.
Paid for negro Waggon & other Utensils \$1085,
Negroes is So high Clemmis has a bad Cough
and quite Sick

Saturday 31 Clear & warm. I went to the plantation Sweep-
ing Cotton, Chopping Cotton Second time, Cot-
ton dieing oh the grass verry dry
Clem has a bad Cough

MAY

This has been a verry dry Month, My Cotton
has Just Come up and I never Saw More grass
Come with it in My life the young Cotton has
Commenced dieing I am affraid I will have a

poor Stand, I have Chopped over My Cotton, Chopped My newground Corn, I bared all My Cotton Split out 77 acres of Cotton Middles with Sweeps 55 acres with Shovels and Swept 24 acres two furrows bared 55 acres Second time I Split out the Middles with of 16 acres Second time, My Corn has been plowed twice, except My newground, which has had nothing done to it only Replanted I chopped the bushes, I am waiting for a rain to plow it

All have had good health this Month I have bought a negro woman Martha from E.M.Cobb of Pentleton S.C. I also bought his two horse waggon & harness & camp equepage for which I paid \$1085. long price but I had the money No other use for it.

When it rains all hands will have to work up or the grass will get us So closes May

JUNE

Sunday 1

We had a fine Season to day at the Hill, I do not Know whether it rained at the plantation or not. Great house preached at to day Ingram & family— Johnathan Thomas & family dined with us Rained good portion of the evening Went patrolling last night

Clem is not well

Monday 2

Clear & Warm I Set out potatoes at the Hill untill after dinner I fixed Willis plough Stock in the evening— I have not heard from the plantation, I do not Know whether they have had Rain or not I will See tomorrow Morning if alls well

Clemmie looks better to day

Tuesday 3

Clear I went to the plantation had a fine rain on last Sunday Ploughing newground Corn & Chopping Cotton Second time, the hoes thined Corn

Monday morning too wet to hoe untill evening,
I rode over to L L T in the evening Mela Sick.

Wednesday 4 Clear. Thundered a good deal but no rain
Finished plowing My Newground Finished piece
of Cotton next to Browns Second time hoeing.
Kit Mule Sick this Morning, got well by dinner
Melia got well Oh the Grass the Grass My Corn
Small but tis growing finely My Newground I
do not think It possibly can make 1 barrel pr acre
Clem is not well

Thursday 5 Rain It rained a good Shower at the Hill, none
at the plantation, Sweeping Cotton, Cutting
Wheet & Chopping hog wallow field of Cotton
Oh the grass If the faul is not verry late My
crop is bound to be Small as My Cotton is verry
Small & Grassy. I am at least ten day's behind
with My hoes & Can't chop More than from $\frac{1}{2}$
to $\frac{3}{4}$ acres pr day Alls well—

Friday 6 Cloudy good part of the day & verry warm, I
Staid at home today to repair Some plow Stocks.
Cobb & Prewit passed back to day going to
Auburn they Say I Can get the waggon I bought
from them next tuesday I'll go to the plantation
tomorrow & See how the grass is Comeing on & c
Alls well

Saturday 7 Clear & verry warm, I went to the plantation in
the morning, Sweeping Cotton & Chopping hog
wallow Cotton, My God how grassy it is, My
prospects is a poor one Cotton Come up late the
grass about to take it, and the lice is trying to
kill what little I have got Clean
Alls well

Sunday 8 Clear & warm, I went patrolling last night, I
Slept a good portion of this Morning Bet & the

children went to the Sabbath School, I Set over with old Man Harwell My patch of wheat is ripe Thunder about in the evening if next week Should be wet the Grass will nearly ruin Me Oh Jordan is a hard road to travel Certain particularly when it is grassy in Hogwallow

Monday 9

Rain Oh how it rains, Commenced raining before three oclock this Morning & Still it rains tis now nearly five. The grass will give me Sissors now Certain Sure, Ill finish the history of this day tomorrow Morning

Tuesday 10

Cloudy & Rain I don't think I ever heard it rain Much harder than it did from about dark untill after ten oclock I do not know how bad My plantation is injured I went to Auburn today after My two horse waggon I Cannot See how I am to Save my Crop too wet to hoe or plough & the grass growing verry fast, Ill do the best I can
Alls well

Wednesday 11

Clear & hot I went to the plantation I tried to Streighten up Corn too wet My plantation is badly injured by the heavy rains of Monday night, hoeing Cotton about in Spot where I can find a place the negroes can Stand up Finish Cutting My wheat at the plantation, Sent Willis to Mill Oh the Grass My Crop I am affraid will be badly injured with the grass I have not plowed, Nor I don't think I can plow before next Monday
Alls well

Thursday 12

Clear and Hot I Staid at Home all day Birrell Cut my wheat at the Hill, Willis gone to the Mill all hands hoeing at the plantation

Alls well

- Friday 13 Clear & warm Tyied to plow, too wet all hands hoeing Cotton The lice is verry bad on My Cotton Alls well
- Saturday 14 Clear To day I Staid at home to attend Court old Fergerson, Can beat a Camp Meeting Swearing, Made another Miss trial, Jury Six to one, one for us and Six against us
A G Greigg, Ben Baker Jacob Sumerford A Kilcrease Jno Thomson Bill Kelly against us & Jno Cannaday for us
Alls hands hoeing Cotton too wet to plow
Alls well
- Sunday 15 Clear & pleasant, Myself & family Spent the day at A W G F Father went with us, I broke buggy
Alls well
- Monday 16 Cloudy untill dinner, Clear in the evening—Commenced laying by my Corn with 5 plows ground full wet and verry grassy I ought to have Commenced to day was a week but it was too wet to plow the whole of last week 3 plows plowing Cotton Middles Hoeing Cotton
Alls well Clem has verry Sore eyes
- Tuesday 17 Cloudy all day. I Staid at the plantation to day, Laying by Corn three plows plowing out Middles in Cotton hoeing Cotton oh the grass
Alls well
- Wednesday 18 Rain it Rained a light Shower to day enough to Keep grass alive laying by Corn, with turning plow & Sweep & planting peas Covering up grass in Cotton Middles with T plow My Crop is Nearly lost, Bradie & Cat Jones Married this evening

- Thursday 19 Rain. Too wet to plough untill after dinner. All hands hoeing in the morning Oh the grass
Alls well
- Friday 20 Cloudy & light Sprinkle Ploughing Corn and Covering up grass in Cotton Middles hoeing Cotton examination to day
alls well
- Saturday 21 Cloudy and Rain in the evening worked out and Set out potatoes at the Hill, Ploughing Cotton at the plantation
alls well
- Sunday 22 Clear. Thomas preached Thomas dined with us Mrs. Walker & Billy Come up yesterday Went patrolling this evening
Alls well
- Monday 23 Clear Went to the plantation, all the ploughs in the piece of Cotton next to Browns, Cutting oats with all the hoe hands, I Am bad off in the grass, I am not by Myself
Alls well
- Tuesday 24 Clear and verry hot, Ploughing Corn & Cutting oats Emaline is all that is howing, two plows in the Cotton after dinner
alls well
- Wednesday 25 Clear & verry warm, Laying by Corn Cutting oats. Finished Cutting oats, all except My Seed Commenced hoeing Cotton after Cutting oats, two plows in the Cotton oh the grass
alls well
- Thursday 26 Clear I Staid at home I rode with father in his piny woods plantation, Plowing Corn & hoeing Cotton
Alls well
- Friday 27 Clear and verry hot I went to the plantation, Plowing Corn hoeing Cotton two plows in the Cotton My Crops is bad off in the grass Corn

- wants rain verry bad. Concert last night Music School to day Bet is taking lessons Bussanons Overseer to day and his Child was buried to day Allas well
- Sat 28 Rain & Harricane at the plantation in the evening Went pat-rolling at night Music School going on I finished Laying by old ground Corn Finished Cutting oats, the wind blew down nearly all My oat Schocks Alls well
- Sunday 29 Rain had a fine rain in the evening I Staid about home nearly all day and Slept. had Watermelons last thursday the first we had, I have not been to the plantation to See the extent of damage done by the Storm Alls well
- Mon 30 Cloudy & wind, I went to the plantation too wet to do any thing Much I plowed part of the day but it was too wet hoed & Set up oats after the Storm My crop is ceriously Injured by the Storm I never had as Many trees on the place down at no time the grass grows finely, I will loose part of My Crop if it rains Much this week Alls well

JULY

- Tues 1 Rain I went to the plantation, plowing & hoeing, I never Saw grass grow as fast in My Life tis So large I can Scarcely plow it with a Shovel I rained again to day in torrents at the plantation, None at the Hill Price horse died Sunday night I do not Know how I am to Save More than half My Cotton Crop it rains every day I cannot Kill grass and tis So wet & hot My Mules look's like they cant Sand it Much longer,

Alls well

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- Wed 2 Cloudy I went to the plantation the ground is a perfect loblolly I tried to bar Some Cotton in the evening the grass will take me without a doubt
alls well
- Thursd 3 Rain It rained again to day at the plantation in torrents What Shall I do? I can neither plow or hoe the water Standing on the Hill Sides
Alls well
- Fri. 4 Cloudy I went to the plantation hoeing about in Spots Cutting & heaping tree tops I don't think I can Save half My Crop. My plantation is injured one thousand dollars from the rains this week Concert last night at the Close of the fiddleing School
Alls well & grass Plenty, to Ruin me.
- Sat 5 Clear I Staid at the plantation all day, too wet to plow, all hands hoeing in the Creek field, the grass has and will injured My Crop one half Election for Mayor
Alls well
- Sun 6 Clear Greathouse preached verry warm no news. Bill Walker Sam Layy & King Said all night Sallie Come back to go to School
Alls well
- Mon 7 Clear Thunder in the evening- Ploughing Creek field Cotton 4 furrows I am Cleaning My Cotton where I go or nearly So Unless it rains in a day or So then the bunches of grass will not die I never will get out of the grass until the frost will help me out
Alls well
- Tuesday 8 Rain, It rained a light Shower at the Hill verry little at the plantation plowing & howing Cotton in the Creek field the ground is full wet yet
Alls well

- Wed 9 Cloudy No rain to day at last the grass begins to die plowing & hoeing Cotton, I will finish plowing creek field tomorrow, It will take me two weeks good weather after this to get the grass out of My Cotton
I have planted no peas in My newground I have had no time after it got dry enough to plow I have had no time to leave My Cotton
Alls well
- Thurs 10 Clear Went to the plantation finished creeK field this Morning Commenced plowing Cotton at home ground getting hard as abrick grass dieing finely Alls well
- Friday 11 Clear Went to the plantation, plowing & hoeing in 50 acre field Cotton looks quite bad, & ground So hard I can not do much plowing, hoeing after the plows. Sent Green to Mill Sent Some wheat what I Made at the Hill 5 1-2 bushels The weather is verry warm
Alls well
- Saturday 12 Clear & dry, I Staid at home to day to Measure out Allowance vegetation appears to be Suffering as Much as I ever Saw Mrs. Leonard & Mill Crowell Spent the day at Mothers, Nothing new, in the evening we had Some Cider at fathers
Alls well
- Sunday 13 Clear & dry I Staid home all day- Bill Walker brought the Miss Walkers & a Miss Wiggins from Milledgeville by here and they Stop to dinner Alls well
- Monday 14 Clear & dry I went to the plantation Bustin Sick the ground is So dry and hard tis impossible for me to plow to do much good The Cot-

- ton looks like it would die and the worms are eating grass Cotton & all before them
I never worked ground as hard in My life, I heard today Fonny was verry Sick-
- Tuesday 15 Clear and dry- Extremely warm I went to the plantation, plowing & hoeing Cotton, Phonny Sick Bustin Sick
- Wed 16 Clear and dry Warm Warm I went to the plantation Plowing Cotton, Phonny Sick, Bustin still Sick- The worm's eating up grass Cotton, & all- the ground So hard & dry I can Scarce plow-
- Thur 17 Clear & dry- Warm- Plowing & hoeing hog wallow Cotton- the grass is all eat up by the worm- tis a Sad looking prospect for a crop
Bustin Sick
- Friday 18 Clear & Still dry- The thing is out and the Jig is up the worms I think will ruin My Cotton crop & the ground is So hard I cant plow to do any good- Bustin Sick.
- Sat 19 Clear & warm Went up to See Phonny in the Morning, Went to the plantation in the evening, Bustin & family quite Sick Hoeing & plowing Cotton
- Sunday 20 Clear Went up to Miss Perrys after Phonny & family, brought them to fathers Ginny had a chill Oh how dry we will Make nothing
- Monday 21 Clear & More Pleasant Plowing & hoeing Cotton Bustins family verry Sick the Cotton & Corn is almost dead, the worms are eating up the Cotton Oh how dry.

- Tues- 22 Clair Staid at the plantation & give Bustins family Medicin all day- Finish plowing untill it rains, commenced Halling oats the Cotton & Corn Certainly will die Soon if it does not rain.
- Wed. 23 Clear I Staid at the plantation last night & Sit up with the Sick I feel bad today- Halling oats & hoeing Cotton I'll finish hoeing tomorrow- Oh how dry I cant make more than 1-3 Crop
- Thurs 24 Clear. I was at the plantation, getting out My wheat & oats. Cleaning up the houses & yard, I Sent Bustin & family to his fathers,
Alls well
- Friday 25 Clear It rained a little last night tho not a Season, Finished getting out my wheat, halled up my last oats, I Made 28 bushels, wheat, got out 45 bushels of Seed oats, Em has a bone felon on her thum that that is verry painful
Alls well
- Sat 26 Rain To day we had a pretty good Season- I Staid about home all day, the Negroes are Scalding & Cleaning up their houses, Eme thum looks like it would kill her. Alls well
- Sundy 27 Clear I Sit up at J A Rs last night Em Come verry near having the lock jaw, I never Saw in all my life one Suffer as much, A Tobacco poltis give relief, and Made her verry Sick at the Stomach
- Mon. 28 Clear Went to the plantation, Sweeping Hog wallow field Cotton, Chopping bushes in the newground, Rachel has a touch of the flux.
- Tues 29 Clear I sit up at J A R, Ems Thum looks like it ould Kill her at times, L Pate Plowing My po-

tatoes at the Hill & breaking up my turnip patch
Sweeping Cotton & Chopping Cotton ground,
Rachel Come up to the Hill Still Sick, I gave
her blue Pill & Dovers powders
Em's Thum is better today.

Wed. 30 Clear & warm Finished Chopping in the new-
ground, Sweeping Cotton Em's Thum is improv-
eing. Rachel Complaining not much the Matter.

Thurs. 31 Clear & Cloudy in the evening, heavy thunder &
I think rain about but none at the Hill Worker
my potatoes at the Hill pulled My patch of fod-
der, Sweeping Cotton, Rachel Complaining with
a bile

I will finish My Crop in one more day and the
poorest Crop I ever had in my life this time of
year, the wet weather then the grass dry weath-
er & worms has about Made a Complete finish
of it My present Calculation is I cant Make
More than three to five hundred pounds of Cot-
ton pr acre, Average the Crop over. My Corn
Crop is verry Sorry I Made 33 1-2 bushels
wheat 9 load of oats & got 45 bushels Seed oats
Bustin got Sick & gone to his Fathers.

1856

AUGUST

Friday 1 Cloudy— and light Sprinkle rain To day I fin-
ished My Crop Hoeing & plowing Cleaning out
hill Side ditches I do wish it would rain
Rachel Complaining with a bile

Sat. 2 Cloudy & rain going about, We all went to
L.L.T.s to a negro barbecue look at his Crop
after dinner he has Some good Cotton, Corn
pretty good My hands Cleaning out ditches.
Oh I do wish it would rain.

- Sunday 3 Clouds Going about, Greathouse preached Lee & Mollie Staid with us to day and going to Stay tonight Phil Walker dined with us
 Rachels bile not well yet
- Mond 4 Clear. To day is election day; Mabson & the American ticket beat 5 votes only at this box No Rain yet, quite a Still time about the Hill, but one or two drunk Men Alls well
- Tuesday 5 Clear & dry I Commenced pulling fodder in places Oh how the fodder is burnt up Getting timbers to build bath house Political Speaking here to day, Eilands, Clopton, Battle & Sayre Made Speeches Alls well
- Wed 6 Clear & dry I am busy building My bath house, pulling fodder Tis verry dry My Crop is the poorest I have ever had Green Pate & Gus helping Me build My bath house.
 Alls well
- Thur 7 Clear & dry I have finished my bath house except Covering it and took a glorious bath, Pulling fodder at the plantation I must go down tomorrow I have been to the plantation Since Tuesday Morning Alls well
- Fri 8 Clear & dry. I went down to the plantation all hands pulling fodder verry poor prospects for a crop Father raised his Ginhouse— Alls well except Lucy She is puny.
- Sat. 9 Clear warm & dry Staid at home all day pulling fodder Willis gone to Mill, Great political excitement through the Country at this time Lucy Still Sick I gave her Some medicine

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- | | | |
|------|----|---|
| Sun | 10 | Clear & hot Staid at home all the Morning, Visited Massengale in the evening Alls well |
| Mon | 11 | Clear & Hot. Went down to the plantation Staid an hour or So in the Morning All hands pulling fodder. Alls well |
| Tues | 12 | Cloudy & little Sprinkle of rain Baker and Leftwich Made a spech on politics All hands pulling fodder I expect they finished to day we are all fixing up to go to the Lochapoka Barbecue & Speaking Alls well |
| Wed. | 13 | Rain a Slow Mist nearly all day— Cleaning up Stuble ground Started to Lochapoka Barbecue & Speaking All well |
| Thur | 14 | Rained nearly all day Slow rain we Camped last night at the Harthorn Meeting Meeting house, a Jolly Set, lots of persons at Lochapoka I heard a part of Hilliard & a part of Clintons Speach, got my dinner and with our Crowd come home Finished rolling Stubble ground logs Alls well |
| Fri | 15 | Cloudy nearly all day trying to Save My wet fodder all the negros are doing is Sunning fodder to day & tomorrow I give them holiday Alls well |
| Sat | 16 | Rain. It rained a pretty Shower in the evening I Staid at home all day I don't feel well, finished My fodder Some of it is verry Sorry— Give the negroes a goat and let them Cook to Suit them- selves I heard to day that Phil Walker had got his leg brokeen Alls well |

- Sunday 17 Clear. Jonathan Thomas & family Spent the day with us, No preaching today No important news, Alls well
- Monday 18 Clear, I went to the plantation Moved old out house & Made Shuck house Commenced picking Cotton Alls well
- Tues. 19 Cloudy— Bet gone to Mr Walkers I went to the plantation after dinner Men grubbing women picking cotton Cotton Shedding all off Alls well
- Wed. 20 Clear Light Showers last light I finished My bath house today Grubing & picking Cotton Alls well
- Thurs. 21 Clear. I Staid at home untill after dinner I went down to the plantation in the evening Grubing & picKing Cotton I will get over My Cotton tomorrow and have out about 17 or 18 hundred alls well
- Fri 22 Clear and warm, Went to the plantation in the evening women burning logs in Stubble ground Men Shrubing alls well
- Sat 23 Clear and warm— I went to Mr. Walkers after Bet— Staid with Phil & George Most of the time— Working in the newground Alls well
- Sun 24 Clear I returned from Mr. Walkers Fannie Johnsons Babie died today alls well.
- Mon 25 Clear I went to the plantation in the Morning putting newground fodder, Went to Columbus after dinner, Camped with the waggon, all well

- Tues 26 Cloudy I was in Columbus all day bought Baggin & rope. Bagging 23c & rope 15c I Sold 4 bales Cotton for father at 11c
Alls well
- Wed 27 Cloudy & rain, a light shower. I camped with the waggon last night Came home this Morning, Phonny family & himself all Sick Working in the Newground Alls well
- Thur 28 Clear I went to the plantation Set all hands to picking Cotton, Phonnys babie I don't thinK Can live much longer— Verry warm weather
Alls well at home
- Fri 29 Stoped picking Cotton too wet clearing— Lizzie gradually growing weaker Preaching going on at both churches My family is all well
- Sat 30 Cloudy and verry windy I think the September Storm has Set in Chilton & Clopton Made political Speechs here today, Chilton the american Elector for this destrict used little Davy up Phonny's babie is Still alive Oh how the wind blows Alls well except Emalins babie is Complaining
- Sun 31 Rain and wind, This is the equinoxal Storm, Oh how the rain falls and the wind blows without Ceacing untill one Oclock Mrs. Smith Stoped here on her way to L L Ts Phonnys babie SinKing as fast as it Can I do not Know how bad the wind has Served me at the plantation, It has blown down nearly all My peach trees and one of My Shade trees I dont thinK I ever Saw Such a day I have picked out 41000 pound Cotton— Cleared 35 acres newground Since I layed by My crop I will Make less Crop than I have since I have been farming Alls well at home

1856

SEPTEMBER

- Monday 1 Clear I went to the plantation the wind blew down a great Many trees and Some fence, and half the Cotton I had opened &c Phonny babie is Still alive My hands are worKing in the new-ground after putting up all the fence
Alls well
- Tues 2 Clear I Staid at home, Phonnys babie died today precisely at eleven Oclock Father raised his Screw, all hands picking Cotton, except Jake & Pate they are helping father raise his Screw
Alls well
- Wed 3 Clear Buried Phonnys babe to day Made two frames to hall wood & rails on borrowed fathers boar, & Sent him to the plantation, I Staid at home all day I must go to the plantation to-morrow, My turnips at the Hill is Comeing up badly
- Thur 4 Clear All hands picking Cotton I have got out only Seven thousand and will get over the Second time in two More days Alls well
- Friday 5 Clear I went down to Sarah Thomas to See her on business, Myself & family went down to L L T. Lee had a Convestive Chill in the evenng we Staid all night Mollie is quite Sick herself Mrs Smith Carra & Julia is Staying at Lees this weeK My hands are all picking Cotton alls well
- Sat 6 Clear and warm All hands picking Cotton My Cotton is turning out even worse than I thought it would. Alls well
- Sun 7 Clear Myself & family Spent the day at L L Torberts, expecting him to have a chill but we

Kept it off Mollie is improving She is able to
Set up a little My family is all well

- Mon 8 Clear & warm, I Went to the plantation after
dinner All hands picking Cotton I don't hon-
estly believe I will Make More than twenty bales
of Cotton Alls well
- Tues 9 Clear & warm Staid at home in the morning
had my carriage Mended & tyre Shrunk Spent
the evening at Jonathan Thomas's I was Sick in
the evening All well except Myself & pickKing
Cotton
- Wed 10 Clear I Staid at home all day— I am not well
Fathers Lee's & Phonnys waggon returned from
Columbus Cotton Selling at 10½ C Received my
gin All hand's picking Cotton I will go to the
plantation tomorrow and Start My gin
- Thurs 11 Clear I went to the plantation, Started My new
gin, It don't do well I am nearly up picking
Cotton I've got out a little over 18000 pound
pound Seed Cotton I am Sick
- Frid 12 Rain It rained a good rain at the Hill and a
good rain at the plantation last night too wet
to pick Cotton untill after dinner Cutting in the
newground I am quite Sick with a Cold and
cough the rest of my family is all well No news
Cotton is Selling at from 10 to 11c
- Sat. 13 Clear Rain too wet to pick Cotton, Packed 5
bales cotton in the evening, I have got about
four More picked about half bale More Gined
My new gin dose worse than My old one did
I am nearly up with My Cotton picking I don't
think I can Make more than 20 or 25 at the

out side, and I am affraid I will not get that.
I am not well

- Sun 14 Clear and pleasant, I Staid at home all day
Ginny Torbert had a chill this morning poor
Contrary Creature I don't Know how She does
to live She will not take Medicine—
I am trouble with heart burn and a bad Cough
I believe I will go to Columbus with My waggon
Alls well except My cough
- Mon 15 Clear I Started to Columbus went to the Wag-
gons, I am quite Sick Willis Started to Columbus
Picking Cotton
- Tues 16 Clear. I was in Columbus Sold my first load
Cotton one bale at 10c three at 11c I am not
well— Picking Cotton— I bought my Salt 10
Sacks I Come home from Columbus got home
at ½ after twelve at night
- Wed 17 Clear I Staid at home all day paid father, his
Money I brought from Columbus I employed
Bill Moon today to overseer for Me next year
\$250 and his bread Willis Returned from Co-
lumbus Alls well
- Thur 18 Clear and pleasant. I went to the plantation
Picking Cotton & ginning Alls well
- Fri 19 Clear and pleasant I Rode down to the planta-
tion in the evening, picking Cotton & ginning
Phony had his runaway negro Ironed today.
Alls well
- Sat 20 Cloudy light Shower at the Hill I packed seven
bales Cotton today. Picked Cotton untill dinner,
I have got out a little over thirty thousands
pounds Cotton,.. Alls well

-
- Sun 21 Clear. I Staid at home day— McGahee's child buried at the Hill today Nothing New Alls well
- Mon 22 Clear & Cool, I went to the plantation to day packed three More bales Cotton Making 15 My new gin brush is broken to pecies Picking Cotton Alls well
- Tues 23 Clear & Cool I went to the plantation Ginning— I packed to day instead of yesterday Picking Cotton, I Sent Phonny's Mules home I had borrowed to gin— Willis gone to Columbus Alls well
- Wed 24 Clear and Cold Some Frost good many things Killed— I Staid at home all day Phil George & Em Spent the day with us today— Willis Returned from Columbus Allen Sold My Cotton 11 3/8 Picking Cotton Alls well
- Thur 25 Clear I rode down to the plantation, Picking Cotton, Willis gone to Columbus I Started to Columbus Camped with the waggon, Phonny went with me. Alls well
- Friday, 26 Clear and Cool, Frost we have had Frost for two Mornings Camped with the waggon on my Return from Columbus I Sold my load of Cotton for 11 7/8— L L T— 11 5/8 J A R for 11 3/4 1 bale for 11c J T's 11 3/4 A, W G T— 11 3/4 Cotton Still going up— I believe Cotton will go to 12½ to 15c I am not well
- Sat 27 Clear Pleasant I returned from Columbus I feel quite unwell all day I bought my negro Shoes yesterday All hands picking Cotton
- Sun 28 Clear and pleasant I Staid at home all day Mr Ingram & family dined with us no preaching

Thomas did not Come I am quite unwell today,
Paid Lee his Cotton Money— I paid father also

Mon 29 Clear and Cool I went down to the plantation
Started my gin again it does better Since I had
it fixed All hands Picking Cotton
I am Still Sick

Tues 30 Clear Windy & Cool I Staid at home all day
Sent Pate to the Steam Mill Picking Cotton &
Ginning I am Sick Paid My taxes and paid
too much

1856

OCTOBER

Wed. 1 Clear I went to the plantation— packed Cotton
I am Still Sick packed Six bales Cotton I am
nearly done picking Charlie went with me to
the plantation & Ed. tomorrow I go to Columbus

Thur 2 Clear I Staid at Home all day, Willis gone to
Columbus I will go to Columbus tomorrow
Morning by Starting before day
Alls well picking peas

Fri 3 Clear I Started to Columbus at three Oclock this
morning; I got to Gerard half past eight. Picking
peas I Sold my load Cotton at 12 3/8 C A W
G T's at 12 1/4 c L L T 12 Alls well

Sat 4 Clear I Returned from Columbus last night 10
oclock I went to the plantation today Moveing
the old corn out of the crib into the barn Some
picking Cotton Killed beef brought Some of it
up to the Hill paid Father & Foote what I owed
them Alls well

Sun 5 Cloudy I went to a picture Show last night,
Greathouse Preached to day I went to preaching
Alls well

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- Mon. 6 Clear and warm I went down to the plantation Commencing pulling Corn Some picking Cotton, Jno Walker & Sime Ransom eat Supper with us on their way from the Warrior Stand Camp Meeting Alls well
- Tues 7 Clear and pleasant, I went to Tuskegee on Sarah Thomas business— Great God how dusty. Gathering Corn at the plantation Alls well
- Wed 8 Clear and dry verry dusty I went to the plantation, gathering Corn; My corn is turning out verry Sorry I will not Make enough to do— Alls well
- Thur 9 Clear & Windy verry dry & dusty I went to Tuskegee as witness— gathering Corn Alls well
- Friday 10 Cloudy I went down to L L T's he expected a chill but Missed it I was at the plantation finished all my Corn except my Newground— Finish putting it away & shucking tomorrow; Alls well
- Saturday 11 Clear I Went to Tuskegee the town has had a bad burn in it No news gathering Corn & picking peas. Alls well
- Sunday 12 Clear I Staid at fathers all day Nothing New Alls well
- Monday 13 Clear To day I went to Tuskegee and have to Stay all the Week to Serve on the Petit Jury the hands are all picking Cotton I Can't tell any thing More about the farm untill I go down & See how things are getting on I have been gone all the week this is Sunday Weather is pleasant and Cool Alls well

- Monday 20 Clear and warm I went to the plantation picking Cotton and geathering newground Corn My newground will Make only three wagon loads of Corn 90 bushels Halling 2 loads of Corn to the Hill I finish picking Cotton all that is Opened, I May get one More bale if it Opens
Willis is quite Sick I am affraid he is going to have a Severe Spell I have been giving him Medicine— I have taken Cold I dont feel well—
The water at my plantation is nearly give out I have to drive My cows to the Creek to get water.
- Tuesday 21 Clear I went to the plantation— Commenced again in the newground Bet gone to her Ma's Buck Myhand and Wynot Wade had a terrible row. Willis is Sick
- Wed 22 Clear I went to the barbecue & Speaking, at Walkers Mill Bet and the children Come home with me Willis is Sick
- Thur 23 Clear I got a load of Jenny Lind Cotton Seed from father and Sent to the plantation by Pate Jake and Pate halling wood from the plantation. Cutting rail timber and lapping up the tops in the newground Green halling rails Moveing cross fence Willis is still Sick I am affraid he has got the Typhoid fever I have got a pretty bad headache Myself
- Friday 24 Clear and verry warm for the Season I Staid about home nearly all day went t in the piney woods to hunt a Situation for a Steam Mill— We found one J A R and Myself has Concludid to go into the Steam Mill business if we can get an engine to Suit me get the Saw timber on 12 hundred acres of land at \$300 and 20 acres or

- More where we Set the Mill for 3 dollars pr Acre.
Pate & Jake halled wood untill after dinner, Pate
gone to Walkers Steam Mill after plank for old
man Harwell, Jake Splitting wood in the even-
ing— Cutting rail timber & lapping up tops at
the plantation Willis Sick
- Saturday 25 Clear I went to the plantation, Cutting rail tim-
ber and lapping up tops Green and Rachel Hall-
ing wood Jake Splitting wood at the Hill Pate
halling lumber for old man Harwell
Willis Sick
- Sunday 26 Clear Went to preaching— Thomas preached the
preacher, Jonathan Thomas & family dined with
us Willis is improveing.
- Monday 27 Cloudy I Started to Columbus, Pate driving
waggon Axle broke hired Moots waggon to carry
the Cotton to town Loaded with Sarah Thomas
Cotton Cutting in the Newground, Jake Splitting
wood Green & Rachel Halling Wood,
Willis improveing
- Tues 28 Clear Staid with the waggons last night It rained
last Night pretty shower laid the dust— Made
evry thing More pleasant I Sold Sarah Thomas
Cotton 5 bales at 11 ¼ c bought her groceries &
paid all they owe in Columbus Cutting in the
newground Willis Well
- Wed 29 Clear I Staid in Columbus last night Charged
me \$1.25 for Supper & loging did you ever See
such price, Come home cutting in the new-
ground Halling fodder out the field with the
Cart Jake Splitting wood Alls well
- Thur. 30 Clear & Cool I Went to the plantation Splitting
rails in the newground Halling Seed & putting

where I am going to Sow wheat.
Alls well

Friday 31

Clear Digging potatoes the potatoes are verry small Willis gone to Mill—

Alls well

Clear I have gathered all my Crop except about two bales Cotton to pick and one More day to dig potatoes— I have gined and Sold 21 bales Cotton— Shucked my Crib full of Corn and put about 300 bushels in the barn, I have about 250 bushels old corn Gathered 41 bushels peas, put up Six loads Oats got out 51 bushels oats, Made 31 bushels wheat put up My fattening hogs 23 in number. Cut down My newground and got the rail timber Cut.

1856

NOVEMBER

Sat 1 .
Sallie
quit bordy
148 days

Clear Digging potatoes I finished to day Suppose I have Made 250 bushels— a verry Sorry turn out for 5 acres of land, Halled wood Willis Come from the Mill,
Weighed Meat & Measured Meal and potatoes for this Month Alls well

Sun 2

Cloudy, Went to Preaching old Granberry preached, dined at fathers; Alls well

Mon 3

Rain Sowed wheat untill the ground got too wet to plow— I will loose Some wheat I am affraid Some I had in soak It will sprout before I can Sow it Rained verry hard, Started My gin in the evening Oh how it rains I think we will get plenty before It quits, Alls well

Tues 4

Cloudy Election day, lots drunken Men Jim Culpepper got a Crack today no one hurt much this box went 11 Majority for Fillmore, Himes went 1 Majority for Fillmore— I loaned Cotton-

ham 2 dollars today

Ginning at the plantation & Splitting rails

Alls well

- Wed 5 Clear and Cold I went to the plantation Ginning, Picking Cotton, and splitting rails too wet to finish Sowing wheat I'll finish tomorrow— Ben Gardner tells me that himself & wife is going to part, I am Sorry to hear it. Alls Well
Every thing is killed as dead as a hammer with frost
- Thur 6 Clear. quite Cool I went to the plantation Finished Sowing wheat Splitting rails & picking Cotton Alls well
- Friday 7 Cloudy and warm Finished powing in wheat Sowed my wheat at the Hill Finished halling in my last Stock of fodder Commenced rolling Newground logs— Women picKing Cotton— Bill Moon Come to see me to get me to Move his things over to the plantation Moon & Pace quit going to Move his things tomorrow
Alls well
- Sat 8 Clear & pleasant Dined at fathers went to Mr Walkers in the evening J A R & Myself on our way to Columbus to get our Steam engine
Alls well
- Mon 10 Clear Left Mr Walkers and went to the waggons, on our way to Columbus John A R Mr Walkers & Phil Camped with the waggon on our way to Columbus Rolling logs in newground, Women picking Cotton Alls well
- Tuesday 11 Clear & Cool Camped with the waggon last night I Staid in Columbus all day; Made arrangements

for a Steam engin \$2500 except the Chemner
all put up & Started

Rolling logs in the newground & picking Cotton

Alls well

Sunday left out through Mistake

Wed 12 Clear, Camped with the waggon last night
Come back from Columbus I do not Know what
they are doing at the plantation
Alls well

Thur 13 Clear Went to the plantation, Cutting up and
rolling logs where I am going to Sow oats, Pick-
ing Cotton I'll finish in two More days Picking
Cotton Loaded up Pate to go to Mill with
wheat— Mary Complaining a little not much the
matter

Friday 14 Clear. I went to Mill to day with Pate took
wheat got 34 lbs to the bushels at Echols Mill,
got home after night Picking Cotton & Cutting
and rolling logs at the plantation
Alls Well

Sat 15 Clear Went to the plantation. Made hog pen
put up My fattening hogs Killed a beef Finished
picking Cotton for this year— I have no account
of the number of pounds of Seed Cotton
Alls well

Sunday 16 Clear and pleasant Went down to Mrs. Capps
to See if they would be ready to deliver Some
brick I bought tomorrow Father Mother & Mollie
dined with us (Had Turkey) Dr Foote & lady
spent the evening with us
Alls well

Mon 17 Clear. To day I Commenced to getting timbers
for Steam Mill, Willis & Lewis halling brick—

- Spencer & the women Cleaning up at the plantation
Alls well
- Tues 18 Clear and Cold Getting Mill timbers getting long verry Slow Spencer Pete & the women is at the plantation Cleaning up & burning logs I am Sick I think I have taken Cold
- Wed 19 Cloudy & warm in the evening Still getting Mill timbers— Cleaning up at the plantation. Bet is verry Sick She has verry high fever & Soar throat I am Sick Myself
- Thur 20 Rain Commenced raining last night and rained nearly all day Slow rain, Getting Mill timbers when we Could between Showers— John A R Come home last night, he has been with me to day getting timbers Bet is Still sick and I am affraid worse she has verry high fevers and Soar throat.
- I am emproveing— I do not exactly Know what they are doing at the plantation— as I have not been there this week Buckhanon is elected & No Mistake tho I did not vote for him—I voted for Fillmore.
- Friday 21 Rain It has rain nearly all day got Mill timbers between Showers I do not know what they are doing at the plantation Willis gone home with the waggon too wet to hall brick.
- Bet is improveing
- Sat 22 Clear I went to the plantation, Cutting & rolling logs My hogs are fattening pretty well, Getting Mill timbers
- Alls well, nothing new only Buchanan is elected & I am Sorry for it.

- | | |
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| Sunday 23 | Rained all day almost without Ceasing I Staid at home I drew a draft of the Saw Mill. Phil & George Come up late in the evening, walked up to fathers Just at night. I think his negro Dick is verry apt to die he is bad off with the PneuMonia, Alls Well |
| Monday 24 | Rained nearly all day getting Mill timbers Cleaning up and repairing fences at the planta- tion. oh how wet, I will finish drawing of Fathers black smith Accounts in one more night. Phil & George Staid all night last night. Alls well |
| Tuesday 25 | Cloudy & verry warm Getting Mill timbers we will finish getting the timbers for the Saw frame in one More day I am quite unwell to day Sick head ache. |
| Wed 26 | Cloudy Getting Mill timbers, I do not exactly know what they are doing at the plantation, I will go down tomorrow and See what they are doing Alls well |
| Thurs 27 | Cloudy Getting mill timbers, I did not go to the plantation but I am going in the Morning I've got the head ache damp weather |
| Fri 28 | Rain It rained half of the afternoon every thing is in a float I went to the plantation rolling logs where they Can Stand without miring, Getting & Splitting logs to build a house at the Mill place Willis went to Mill at Gassaways We have got about 1400 boards at the Mill Alls well |
| Sat 29 | Rain I drizzled rain near all day building house at Mill place oh; how wet not doing much at the plantation too wet. Alls Well |

Sun 30 Clear and Cold I went to Mr Walkers today to Meet Brown but he did not come according to promise, My goodness how Muddy the roads are
Alls well

November is gone, I have finished My Crop entire I have Sowed 10 acres of Wheat I have gined and halled of all my Cotton except two bales one to gin and two to take off I have Cut down My Newground and piled the brush & rolled the logs tis all ready for burning, I have Cut and rolled all the logs South of the houses I have put up 23 hogs to fatten they have been up two weeks Been getting Mill timbers for the last two weeks now ready to frame For the last ten days We have had rain in abundance.

1856

DECEMBER

Monday 1 Rain To day it raines without half trying every thing is in a float. Getting logs to build Crib & Shuck house at the Mill halling up the Mill timbers
Alls Well

Tues 2 Rain and Still it rains, tis an awfull Spell of wet weather working at the Mill place Cleaning up and building houses, Brown was to frame our building has failed to Come

Goulding Come out from Columbus to fix the location for our Mill doing but little of Nothing at the plantation
Alls Well

Wed 3 Clear and Cold Work at the Mill place Cutting old logs & Cleaning up Corner of the fences at the plantation
Alls Well

Thur 4 Cloudy and Cold Working at the Mill place I went to the plantation after dinner, rolling logs, My hogs are fettenning verry Slow, but they eat lots of Corn.
Alls well

- Friday 5 Cloudy Rained a little, Working at the Mill place, Rolling logs at the plantation
Alls well
- Sat 6 Clear & Cold Work at the Mill Fathers negro Dick died at nine oclock at night Alls well
- Sun 7 Clear & verry Cold Greathouse preached today, Phonny & Ginny at fathers Ginny & Willie both had chills today Spent the evening at Jonathan Thomas Alls well Brought Martha up to Kitten
- Mon 8 Clear and verry Cold. Father killing hogs I Must kill tomorrow, I have Sent Pat to the plantation to help drive the hogs up this evening, Working at the Mill place digging the pit & getting boards. Alls well
- Tues 9 Clear and Cold Killed My hogs to day Cut up & primed down & spread out at night The following is the weight of my hogs.
166—251—162—204—185—163—118—166
145—173—177—169—167—175—190—145
188—149—170—182—168—186—118
Making 23 in number Total weight 3919 Making an average of 170 $\frac{9}{23}$ lbs pr hog
Oh how cold Alls well
- Wed 10 Rained To day I Salted up my pork working on the pit at the Mill place verry Cold
Alls well
- Thur 11 Clear. More pleasant Still at work at the Mill place I'll go down to the plantation tomorrow
Alls well
- Friday 12 Rain every, thing is in a perfect quagmire, Working at the Mill, Bill Moon is at the plantation—officiating Commenced last Monday,
Alls well

- Sat 13 Clear Worked at the Mill place burning logs at the plantation in the Newground Oh how verry wet, Our pit is a perfect Mire— No workman Come yet We have given our Note for an engeneer to Johnson of Columbus Geo
Alls well
- Sunday 14 Cloudy & windy Oh how it rained last night, quite blustery and Cold today I Staid at home to day untill dinner took a nap after dinner and Bet & Myself Spent the evening at Foots—
Alls well
- Monday 15 Clear and Cold I have Commenced to day to frame the Mill Myself as no workman has Come yet, Burning in the newground at the plantation
Alls well
- Tues 16 Clear and Cold Still at work at the Mill Digging well; troublesome job Lees Harreet died yesterday and buried to day, We have the promise of a workman tomorrow, Mr. Simmons negro
Alls well
- Wed 17 Clear and Cold at work at the Mill Commenced frameing, Simmons negro Ben is bossing the work.
Alls Well
- Thursday 18 Clear and Cold, Frameing our Mill I do not Know what they are doing at the plantation—I will from this out give an account of the plantation only the days I go down
Alls Well
- Friday 19 Cloudy Working on the Mill frame we get along verry Slow. Burton did not help us to day lazy raschal I think we will have rain Soon from the Signs I heard to day that old man Ivey was dead
Nothing new

- Sat 20 Rain to day it has rained nearly all day We worked on the Mill when we Could Nothing new
Alls well
- Sun 21 Clear and the Coldest day we have had this winter, Lee & Bill Jones dined with us to day,
Alls well
- Mon 22 Clear and Cold Finished framing the Mill
Alls well
- Tues 23 Clear and extremely Cold, raised Mill Jerry Sick I am affraid he will die every body helped us that we asked to raise the Mill but Brown Callaway & Hargroves We did not finish raising the Mill
Alls Well
- Wed 24 Clear and verry Cold
Finished raising the Mill all turned loose for Christmast, after we finished raising the Mill
Alls well
My horse Jerry is well or appears to be So
- Thurs 25 Clear and Cold. This is Christmast day and a dull Christmast it is A Small Auction at the Store
Alls Well
- Friday 26 Clear and warm— Alls well nothing uncommon— Wen't patrolling I rode down to Sarah Thomas to See about taking Aaron for the next year. I hired Ike at \$125.00 pr year
- Sat 27 Cloudy and warm I Staid at home and about the Store all day Parson Thomas dined with us Auction at the Store
Alls Well
Mary had a baby Christmast day

| | | |
|------|----|---|
| Sun | 28 | Cloudy and Sprinkled rain, Thomas preached his farewell Sermon today Alls well |
| Mon | 29 | Cloudy & warm I Staid at home all day I Settled with Phil Walker, Wilburn is here trying to get a School, I don't feel well tomorrow holloday is out I have not been to the plantation in two weeks |
| Tues | 30 | Clear and Cool. To day ends Christmas holloday with me Alll Well |
| Wed | 31 | Rain Commenced work again at the Mill, Cut rafters and put them up fixing Summerfords house I am not well To day ends 1856 on the next page I will give an account of what I have done I don't feel well |

INDEX FOR 1856

| | |
|--------|---|
| Corn | I planted this year 120 acres in Corn Made 1100 bushels— quite a poor crop and the Corn is verry Sorry— too much wet weather then too much dry |
| Cotton | I planted 165 acres in Cotton I Made 29 bales Weights as follows 626—630—624—613—685—600—631 594—641—626—579—573—640—620 581—548—551—589—550—571—546 613—606—528—576—580—441—491—611 Total amount 17002 lbs brought \$1955-17c Average \$11.50 |
| Oats | I Sowed 37 acres in oats Made twelve waggon loads Verry light, Sowed in February |

- Peas— I gathered 41 bushel peas.
- Wheat I Sowed 12 acres Made— 31 bushels the rust nearly ruined it
- Pork I Killed 23 hogs for the next year Weights as follows
 166—251—162—204—185—163—118—166—145—
 173—177—169—167—175—190—145—188—149—
 170—182—168—186—118
 Total Amount 3919 lbs
- Provision Makes an average of 170 $\frac{9}{23}$ pounds
 Consumed 303 bushels Meal 3404 pounds bacon
 & heads back bones and ribs 2 beefs
 29 negroes and Myself Wife and 3 children in family
 I have Bought one negro this year Martha—
 Paid \$1000 dollars for her, bought her from Ed Cobb,
 Bought a two horse Waggon & Harness from Cobb paid \$80
 had one white child born, Clem Clay Torbert 1st day February—
 Emaline and Mary both had children this year, Emalines is a girl
 and Mary's is a boy
 Lost one horse— My Overseer quit the 12th day of July—
 I had no overseer after that untill Bill Moon took Charge
 in December Worked five weeks the latter, part of this year on Steam Mill—
 Employed Bill Moon to Oversee for me the next year at \$250 and his bread,
 Employed Jacob Summerford to live at the Mill \$200 & bread
 J A Richardson and Myself are equally interested in the Mill
 I paid \$13.56c Doctor bill this year, and \$9.00 of that was for caces of Midwifery
 I have had almost no Sickness
 I believe I will Close by bidding adiew to 1856 with My Kindest thanks.

JAMES M. TORBERT

INDEX TO ALABAMA WILLS

The Alabama Society Daughters of the American Revolution announces the publication of its *Index to Alabama Wills 1808-1870*, lithoprinted by Edwards Brothers Inc., of Ann Arbor, Mich.; 8½ x 11; bound in blue buckram with gold lettering; about 195 pages; This index gives all wills found in the entire state within the period mentioned, listed alphabetically by testators, with the county where probated, the volume and page where recorded with the years covered by the book. In instances where the original will was found but no recorded copy, the will is shown as "loose" with the year when executed or probated. The Society believes the book will be of great help to county officials, lawyers, abstract companies, local historians, and genealogists. The price is \$5.00. Address all orders to Mrs. Harrison T. Gill, 804 Jackson Street, S.E., Decatur, Ala.

